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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NOTICE TO READERS: The United States Government recognizes the independence of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

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Arms Control & Disarmament

Gorbachev Addresses Nation on Disarmament

LD0510224391 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 2040 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Address to the nation by USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow on 5 October—recorded]

[Text] Dear compatriots, a week ago U.S. President George Bush put forward an important initiative on nuclear weapons. This initiative confirms that a new way of thinking has been widely supported by the world community. George Bush's proposals are a worthy continuation of the drive started in Reykjavik. This is my principled opinion. I know that Boris Yeltsin and leaders of other republics share this opinion. In this statement I will announce our reciprocal steps and countermeasures.

In the field of tactical nuclear weapons, the following actions will be taken: All nuclear artillery munitions and nuclear warheads for tactical missiles are being eliminated. Nuclear warheads for surface-to-air missiles are being removed from the forces, concentrated at central bases, and some are being eliminated. All nuclear mines are being eliminated. All tactical nuclear weapons will be withdrawn from surface ships and from multipurpose submarines. These weapons and also nuclear weapons of the Navy's land-based aviation are to be stored in central storage bases. Part of it is to be eliminated. Thus, the Soviet Union and the United States are taking reciprocal radical measures leading to the elimination of tactical nuclear weapons. Moreover, we propose to the United States that the Navy's tactical nuclear weapons be eliminated totally on a reciprocal basis. Also on a reciprocal basis, it would be possible to withdraw from military units and fronts and from tactical aviation all nuclear warheads, aerial bombs, air-launched missiles and to place them in central storage bases. The USSR calls upon other nuclear powers to join in these far-reaching USSR-U.S. steps on tactical nuclear weapons.

Like the U.S. President, I support the earliest possible ratification of the strategic offensive arms treaty. This question is being submitted for examination to the first session of the new membership of the USSR Supreme Soviet. In view of the unilateral measures on strategic offensive arms announced by President Bush, we are taking the following action: Our heavy bombers, like those of the United States, will not be kept on combat footing, and their nuclear weapons will be stored at military depots. We are discontinuing the development of a modified short-range nuclear missile for Soviet heavy bombers. We are discontinuing the USSR's development of a mobile small-size ICBM [intercontinental ballistic missile]. We shall not be building up the quantity of launching facilities for railway-based ICBM's. The modernization of these missiles will not be carried out over and above those we already have. Thus the number of our mobile ICBM's with individually aimed separable warheads will not be increased. All our railway ICBM's will be kept at the places where they are permanently based. As a reciprocal step, we are removing from combat duty 503 ICBM's, including 134 ICB'Ms with individually aimed separable warheads. We have already removed from our combat forces three atomic missile submarines with 44 launching facilities and are removing three more submarines with 48 missiles with their launching facilities.

We have adopted the decision to make deeper cuts in our strategic offensive weapons than the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Weapons envisages. As a result, when the seven-year period of cuts is up, the number of strategic nuclear warheads in our country will be 5,000 units, not 6,000 units, as outlined by the treaty. Of course, we would welcome an analogous approach on the part of the United States. We propose to the United States that immediately following the ratification of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Arms, intensive talks on further radical cuts in strategic offensive weapons, approximately by 50 percent, be begun. We are ready to discuss the U.S. proposals on non-nuclear anti-missile defense systems. We propose to the U.S. side that the possibility of creating joint systems to avert nuclear missile strikes with ground- and space-based elements also be examined.

We declare that as of today, a unilateral moratorium on carrying out nuclear weapons tests will begin for a period of one year. We are relying on other nuclear powers to follow our example. A path toward the earliest and complete cessation of nuclear testing will thereby be opened up. We are in favor of reaching an agreement with the United States on the controlled cessation of the production of all fissionable weapons materials.

We express our readiness to begin detailed dialogue with the United States on the development of safe and ecologically responsible technologies for storing and transporting nuclear warheads and on methods of utilizing nuclear explosive devices and increasing nuclear safety.

With a view to enhancing the reliability of nuclear arms control, we are uniting under a single operational directorate all strategic nuclear forces and are including strategic defensive systems in a single type of armed forces.

We hope that eventually other nuclear powers will actively join the efforts of the USSR and the United States. I consider that the time has come for a joint statement by all nuclear powers on the non-first use of nuclear weapons. The USSR has long adhered firmly to this principle. I am convinced that such a step by the U.S. side would play an immense role. We are pleased to learn of the U.S. Administration's plans to reduce numbers in their Armed Forces by half a million men in the next few years. For our part, we intend to reduce the numbers of our Armed Forces by 700,000 men.

In conclusion, I want to stress the following: By acting thus—in one instance unilaterally, in another on reciprocal courses, and in a third by means of negotiations—

we are decisively moving the disarmament process forward, thereby approaching the aim that was proclaimed as long ago as the beginning of 1986: a nuclear-free world, a safer and more stable world. There is much work here for governments, experts, and departments. We are talking about a new phase in one of the main directions of international development.

Evidently, the question also arises of a new USSR-U.S. summit. I have been speaking to U.S. President George Bush. I told him about our countersteps in connection with his initiative. At the same time, I voiced proposals for a summit meeting. There was a good exchange of views. He gave me a positive assessment of our proposals, and stated his satisfaction with how we are acting and addressing some of the most major issues in world politics.

Thank you. All the best.

TASS Carries 'Full Text'

LD0510210191 Moscow TASS in English 2054 GMT 5 Oct 91

["Full text" of statement made by President Mikhail Gorbachev on Soviet television on 5 October]

[Text] Moscow October 5 TASS—Follows the full text of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's statement made on Soviet television on Saturday:

"Dear compatriots,

"A week ago, U.S. President George Bush put forward an important initiative on nuclear weapons.

"This initiative confirms that new thinking has been widely supported by the world community. George Bush's proposals continue the drive started in Reykjavik. This is my opinion. I know that Boris Yeltsin and leaders of other republics share this opinion.

"In this statement, I will announce our reciprocal steps and counter-measures.

"First. The following steps will be made as regards tactical nuclear weapons:

— All nuclear artillery ammunition and nuclear warheads for tactical missiles will be destroyed.

— Nuclear warheads of anti-aircraft missiles will be removed from the Army and stored in central bases. Part of them will be destroyed. All nuclear mines will be eliminated.

— All tactical nuclear weapons will be removed from surface ships and multipurpose submarines. These weapons, as well as weapons from ground-based naval aviation will be stored. Part of them will be destroyed.

"Thus, the Soviet Union and the United States are taking reciprocal radical measures leading to the elimination of tactical weapons.

"Moreover, we propose that the United States remove on a reciprocal basis from the Navy and destroy tactical nuclear weapons. Also on a reciprocal basis, we could remove from active units of front (tactical) aviation all nuclear ammunition (bombs and aircraft missiles) and store them.

"The Soviet Union urges other nuclear powers to join these far-reaching Soviet-U.S. measures as regards tactical weapons.

"Second. Like the U.S. President, I call for the earliest possible ratification of the treaty on strategic offensive weapons. This issue will be discussed by the first session of the Soviet Supreme Soviet of new convocation.

"Taking into account the unilateral steps on strategic offensive weapons announced by President George Bush, we will take the following measures:

— Our heavy bombers, like U.S. ones, will be removed from alert, and their nuclear weapons will be stored.

— We will stop work on a new modified short-range missile for Soviet heavy bombers.

— The Soviet Union will stop work on a mobile small-size inter- continental ballistic missile.

— We will scrap plans to make new launchers for inter-continental ballistic missiles on rail cars and modernise them. Thus, the number of mobile inter-continental ballistic missiles with multiple individually targeted warheads will not increase.

— All our inter-continental ballistic missiles on rail cars will be returned to their storage.

— We will remove from day-to-day alert status 503 inter-continental ballistic missiles, including 134 inter-continental ballistic missiles with multiple individually targeted warheads.

— We have already removed from active forces three nuclear missile submarines with 44 launchers for submarine-based ballistic missiles and three more submarines with 48 launchers are now being removed".

"Third. We will make more radical cuts in our strategic offensive weapons than the treaty on strategic offensive weapons envisages. As a result, in seven years, we will have 5,000 nuclear warheads instead of 6,000 envisaged by the treaty.

"We would welcome reciprocal steps by the United States.

"We propose that immediately after the ratification of the treaty, the United States and the Soviet Union begin negotiations on further radical cuts in strategic offensive weapons, approximately by 50 per cent.

"We are ready to discuss U.S. proposals on non-nuclear anti- aircraft systems.

"We propose to study the possibility of creating joint systems to avert nuclear missile attacks with ground- and space- based elements.

"Fourth. We declare an immediate one-year unilateral moratorium on nuclear weapons tests. We hope other nuclear powers will follow this path towards the earliest possible and full cessation of nuclear testing.

"We hope to reach an agreement with the United States on a controlled cessation of the production of all fissionable materials for weapons.

"Fifth. We are ready to begin a detailed dialogue with the United States on the development of safe and ecologically clean technologies to store and transport nuclear warheads, as well as methods to utilise nuclear explosive devices and increase nuclear safety.

"To increase the safety of nuclear arms control, we put all strategic nuclear weapons under single control and include strategic defensive systems into a single armed service."

"Sixth. We hope that eventually, other nuclear powers will follow the example of the United States and the Soviet Union.

"I believe time has come for all nuclear powers to make a joint statement to keep them from making first nuclear strike. The Soviet Union has long been adherent to this principle.

"I'm convinced the United States will take vital step by making such a commitment.

"Seventh. We welcome the U.S. plans to reduce its Armed Forces by 500,000 people.

"We plan to reduce our Armed Forces by 700,000 people.

"In conclusion, I would like to stress that taking unilateral and bilateral steps and holding negotiations, we push forward the process of disarmament, approaching the goal proclaimed in early 1986—a nuclear-free, safer and more stable world.

"The governments, experts and departments will have much to do in this field. It will be a new stage of international development on one of its major directions.

"Therefore, a question about a new Soviet-U.S. summit meeting may naturally emerge. I have just had a conversation with U.S. President George Bush and told him about our reply to his initiative. We had a good discussion. The U.S. President gave a positive assessment of our proposals and expressed satisfaction with our approach towards solving key problems in world politics.

"Thank you. All the best to you."

'Positive' Bush Response

LD0510230991 Moscow TASS in English 2257 GMT 5 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Pavel Vanichkin]

[Text] Washington October 6 TASS—U.S. President George Bush on Saturday gave a positive assessment of the Soviet Union's reciprocal measures announced by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in a televised address on Saturday, a White House spokesman said.

He said before the address, Bush had a 20-minute telephone conversation with Gorbachev.

NATO Welcomes Proposals

LD0610162991 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 6 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Valeriy Shashkov]

[Text] Brussels October 6 TASS—President Mikhail Gorbachev's proposals in the field of nuclear disarmament met with positive response in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

"We welcome the president's initiative," a spokesman for the NATO headquarters in Brussels said today.

He stressed that the initiative was a step in the right direction towards strengthening security and stability at the lowest possible level of nuclear arsenals.

NATO will study the Soviet proposals most attentively, he said.

U.S. Official Explains Initiative to Petrovskiy

LD0510160991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1527 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 5 Oct (TASS)—Today Vladimir Petrovskiy, USSR first deputy foreign minister, received Reginald Bartholomew, U.S. deputy secretary of state, who arrived in the Soviet Union for consultations relating to U.S. President George Bush's nuclear weapons initiative. Bartholomew gave expanded explanations on the issue. The Soviet side highly assessed the U.S. leader's decision to take unilateral steps in the nuclear disarmament field. The U.S. deputy secretary of state was informed that the Soviet Union will take reciprocal steps in this field aimed at strengthening strategic stability and international security in the very near future.

Discusses Arms Cuts With Pankin

LD0610080491 Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 6 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin on Saturday received Reginald Bartholomew, U.S. under secretary of state, visiting here for consultations on matters connected with U.S. President George Bush's latest initiative concerning nuclear arms cuts.

Pankin reaffirmed a high appreciation of the U.S. President's proposals by the Soviet leadership. He acquainted Bartholomew with the main content of the Soviet side's initiative announced by President Mikhail Gorbachev during his appearance on Soviet television on Saturday.

Both Pankin and Bartholomew agreed that matters concerning the practical implementation of the Soviet and U.S. Presidents' initiatives would be considered with the participation of experts.

Officials Comment on Bush Nuclear Arms Initiative

Lt Gen Manilov: 'Extremely Positive'

LD0510141791 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] The Soviet Defense Ministry is studying the initiative of the United States President George Bush to reduce nuclear armaments. Here's the view of Lieutenant General Valeriy Manilov of the Soviet Defense Ministry:

The initiative should be assessed as extremely positive and in line with our own proposals. Way back in 1986 and later, we repeatedly suggested doing something to rid humanity of nuclear weapons altogether. The Soviet program to eliminate all nuclear weapons before the year 2000 is our strategic policy. The Soviet Union has more than once declared that its Armed Forces are ready to scrap their nuclear potential on the basis of reciprocity. Our position remains the same today, too. The Soviet Union has repeatedly pointed to the need of holding talks on reducing and subsequently scrapping short-range nuclear weapons, Valeriy Manilov said.

It seems that the Soviet-American relations in the sphere of arms control have entered a new stage when a unilateral initiative based on trust in the military sphere, not on talks that at times drag on for years, help them move forward. General Manilov again:

This process is dialectical and both aspects are interconnected. It is absolutely clear that disarmament talks are needed where the parties could coordinate their positions and clear up their views, but the process may become altogether useless. Many negotiations could be held on different aspects, but to no avail. That's why the second aspect of this dialectical process is that it should be constantly filled with practical content. The Soviet Union has always borne in mind this dialectical interaction. Take our unilateral initiatives, say the armed forces reduction by half a million in 1988, or the issue of putting an end to nuclear arms testing. Unfortunately, the latter was not reflected in the initiative of the American President. The Soviet Union has made a unilateral pledge and has not carried out nuclear tests for two years, while the other side still conducts them. This question, too, must be included on the agenda of the Soviet-American talks. The characteristic feature at the moment is that on the basis of the level of confidence reached at previous talks practical steps could be made today, even outside the framework of the treaties and agreements already signed.

Shevardnadze Praises Initiative

LD0410112491 Moscow TASS in English 1042 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 4 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, head of the Soviet Foreign Policy Association, has praised U.S. President George Bush's decision to radically reduce the U.S. nuclear arsenal as a move to develop and consolidate partnership and cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union.

He told the Soviet weekly NEW TIMES that this initiative would have been impossible in the past. "We have long been building this hill to get on top of it and see new inspiring perspectives," Shevardnadze said.

He said five years ago his idea of a nuclear-free world was called naive, but the U.S. President's initiative gives the world a chance to realise it now by destroying nuclear weapons.

Commenting on the U.S. decision to remove nuclear weapons from alert status and accelerate the process of arms reduction, Shevardnadze said "these are reasonable and responsible steps fitting new relations of partnership between our countries. We should support them and take reciprocal measures".

Arbatov Welcomes 'New Approach'

LD0410192591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1135 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 4 Oct (TASS)—The diminishing threat of war during the last few years has occurred in the first place because the USSR and the United States have started to undertake unilateral measures in disarmament, states Academician G.A. Arbatov, director of the USA and Canada Institute.

In an interview with a TASS correspondent, the Soviet scientist welcomed President G. Bush's new approach to the problems of disarmament, emphasizing that by their character and significance they rank alongside the 1988 initiatives of President M.S. Gorbachev on the unilateral reduction of the Soviet Armed Forces by half a million and with the Soviet unilateral moratorium several years ago on carrying out nuclear tests. The unilateral measures of the USSR and the United States to lower the level of military conflict, continued Arbatov, have guaranteed the strengthening of mutual trust and have helped to overcome the buildup of technical difficulties. Such approaches have saved a lot of time, and this has played a decisive role. Slow diplomacy, along with speedy progress in establishing military technology, has resulted in the arms control talks' tackling yesterday's problems rather than today's, and, even more so, tomorrow's.

Arbatov noted: To resolve the problems of disarmament, we first relied on talks, and important agreements were reached. I cannot escape the thought, however, that as a result of this whole process we have two and a half times more nuclear weapons than we had at the start of the talks. It is possible that this result was unavoidable. This was the model for talks during the years of the "cold war." Their aim was not to eliminate the arms race, but to direct it. Practically speaking, these talks were governed by the needs of the military-industrial complexes of the two countries.

The strategic arms talks lasted almost nine years and showed that we can no longer rely on old procedures. The world urgently needs us to seek new ways to achieve disarmament. Talks should be combined with unilateral measures on arms reduction.

The "cold war" is over, but its legacy remains and places a heavy burden on us. The most unpleasant part of this legacy is militarization—monstrous militarization. Economics, politics, and thinking have been perniciously affected by it, the director of the USA and Canada Institute thinks.

We will have a difficult time in reducing military arsenals to reasonable limits. A perverted vision of the world still prevails here. We do not realize how much we are militarized. Before World War II, the United States spent $2 billion on the military sector per year. After the civil war, in conditions of a really hostile atmosphere, Soviet Russia had 500,000 people in its Armed Forces. Now there are about 4 million people in the USSR Armed Forces; and the U.S. military budget amounts to $300 billion.

The 5-10 percent reductions in the armed forces are regarded now as great progress. This does not, however, meet present demands. You see, there is no real danger. In the past we were preparing for a war with a powerful enemy having an enormous Army, Air Force, Navy, and with an enormous nuclear potential. The situation has changed dramatically. Threats of local conflicts, which appear from time to time, are not in the least what threatened the world before.

Now they are talking about reducing the Armed Forces by 500,000 in the United States over the next five years and by 700,000 in the USSR. These reductions should not be the last in both countries.

I have an impression, G.A. Arbatov says, that further reductions in the USSR Armed Forces are restrained not by a military necessity but by social problems. Military expenditures we have ruined us to the extent that now we have a housing shortage problem, an absence of jobs for demobilized servicemen, and difficulties in the defense industry. An absurd situation has been created, but we should come out of it quickly and decisively. Life does not give us much time for resolving these problems.

It seems that the USSR and the United States have now embarked on the right road. I think our reply to Bush's proposals will be not only positive but also interesting, and that new, hopeful prospects will arise. We can join a reduction race to reasonable limits.

At present, rare opportunities for resolving war and peace problems in the interests of mankind are appearing, and they simply cannot be missed, Academician G.A. Arbatov stated, concluding the interview.

Defense Industry's Future, Nuclear Arms Viewed

*OW0410181991 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1542 GMT 4 Oct 91*

[Interviews with Professor Victor Protasov, chief designer of a defense factory, by INTERFAX corresponent Aleksandr Blokhini; and with People's Deputy Ales Adomovich INTERFAX corresponent Nina Kovalenko; place and date not given; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Owing to the well-known initiative of US President George Bush, nuclear weapons and their destruction have become world subject number one. In this edition, IF [INTERFAX] publishes information concerning President Mikhail Gorbachev's appraisal of the American initiative. Appearing on Soviet television Mr Gorbachev also declared himself for the mutual suspension of nuclear testing.

The chief designer of a defense factory, Victor Protasov, a missile specialist with 36 years' experience, deals with the problem of nuclear weapons in an interview whose theme is the conversion of the military industry to civilian production.

In a conversation with IF corresponent Nina Kovalenko, the well-known writer Ales Adamovich, a USSR people's deputy, confides his anxieties in connection with the new aspects of the nuclear problem which have appeared in this country as a result of the completed or planned secession of most of the republics.

USSR PRESIDENT CONSIDERS AS POSITIVE NEW AMERICAN PROPOSALS ON DISARMAMENT

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said the Soviet Union esteems the initiative on nuclear disarmament of US President George Bush as extremely positive. Appearing on Soviet television on Saturday September 28, Gorbachev noted that this initiative shows the US Administration's adherence to the process of nuclear disarmament. As a result of this, in the Soviet president's opinion, a considerable advancement towards a nuclear-free world is possible.

On the basis of Mr Bush's letter and their telephone conversation on Friday September 27, Mr Gorbachev remarked that the American initiative was unilateral. Hovever, the Americans, he said, gave to understand that they are counting on the Soviets to take adequate measures.

All in all, it is still early to appraise the American proposals, and there will arise a lot of questions, the Soviet president said. He declared himself for the suspension of nuclear testing. However, in their telephone conversation Mr Bush answered that this problem does not form part of the proposals put forward by the Americans.

CONVERSION - AN INSIDE VIEW

Interview by chief designer of a defence plant, member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Professor Victor Protasov with INTERFAX correspondent Aleksandr Blokhin.

Corr.: What do you think, Mr. Protasov, of allegations that the defence industry "gobbles up" the lion's share of national resources and so should have its "appetites" cut back by closing some of its enterprises?

V. Protasov: I have some statistics to reply your question. The share of the defence industry's real estate (buildings, machinery, and other equipment) in the national total is a mere 6.4 percent. Its consumption of rolled metal, for instance, makes up 9.8 percent of the national figure, of steel and pipes—5 percent. On the other hand, the defence industry annually produces 100 percent of the national output of radio and television sets, of video tape-recorders, sewing machines, cameras, nearly all taperecorders, over half washing machines, vacuum cleaners, motocycles, and so on. Civilian products account for practically half its output.

Those who rashly advocate closing down defence plants should bear in mind that in such a case they stand to lose all the above-named goods. Nor is it feasible in many cases to close down only the specifical "defence part of this or that enterprise since its "civilian" part is technologically tied up to it.

Corr.: What can be done about conversion then?

V.P.: Strange as it may seem, with all our abundant current discussions, we talk very little about the basic conceptions. And without a well-considered conception our conversion takes on monstrous forms. Its first stage began in 1987-88 as yet another of our sweeping campaigns: Defence enterprises were obliged by decree to produce arbitrary volumes of an arbitrary choice of civilian items ordered to make up a minimum of 40 percent of their output regardless of their actual capacities. As to the choice of items, I can cite my own experience. The plant I manage specializes in goods made of composite materials, such as various tanks, pipes, and so on, and it was compelled to produce... an automatic machine for filling cans of pickles with brine. And that was practically the case everywhere.

Now a second stage of conversion has begun - "avalanche" I call it. Under public pressure the Finance Ministry has set certain norms of profitability for defence industries. Starting with this year, it has put a limit to the cost of pilot models of military hardware. At the same time all our suppliers have been given a right to set their own bargain prices. As a result, about 500 defence plants have come out as losing, some of them up to 200-300 mn [million] roubles in debt. So, they begin refusing to accept defence orders.

Corr.: Some people might take your complaints as an attempt by the military-industrial complex to protect its positions, such as immense defence expenditure, an inflated army, and so on....

V.P.: We in the Defence Ministry have been our own undoing. I mean that the defence budget and armament programmes have always been drawn up in top secrecy. That has created a negative public opinion round them. The sooner we start discussing all those problems openly, the more chance to put things in order.

I think, and I know many people are of the same opinion, that our Army ought to be cut down and put on a professional basis. Those who say that a professional army goes counter Russia's traditions should recall that before the 1917 revolution the Army had a backbone of a professional military class - officers and non-com officers.

We must also cut back the quantities of produced arms concentrating more on their quality. As it is, less than half of our armaments meet the modern technical standards. I can tell you in this light that on August 18 a draft armaments programme was signed till the year 2000 based on the conception of sufficient defence. It was to cut back the purchases of serially produced hardware while raising the expenditure on research. August 21 it was to have been presented to the USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev. But the putsch has changed everything, for the programme proceeded from a single USSR Army....

Corr.: To the point, what's your attitude towards emerging national guards or armies in the republics?

V.P.: Different republics will need armed forces with widely different structures. One thing is the national army of a Baltic state which is threatened by nobody. It's quite another matter with the national guard in Georgia which has tense relations with Muslim countries. To be a sovereign nation Georgia will have to keep as a minimum a couple of armour and a couple of airborne divisions, not to mention other details.

Corr.: With the prospect of the former Soviet Union... well, disintegrating, another grave question emerges concerning the nuclear arms left in some of the republics.

V.P.: Yes, Kazakhstan, Belorussia, and the Ukraine possess nuclear arms. At first they seemed determined on obtaining a nuclear-free status and sending the nukes to Russia, but now they are set to keep the arms. I've been a missile specialist for 36 years, and I can tell you that this is mere childishness. I know only too well what sort of infrastructure is needed to keep the missile pits in working order. If you leave a liquid-fuelled ballistic missile a month without proper maintainence, it will start leaking. And a milligram of leaking fuel will be enough to poison all around it. Who is going to service them properly if the nuclear arms are shared between the republics, I can't think.

Then we should remember that a monthly cost of keeping just one missile runs into tens or even hundreds of thousands of roubles. If each republic starts spending separately on that, the total will certainly exceed what's being spent now.

My idea is that when the republics declared they would keep those arms, they simply hadn't calculated what it's going to cost them. I fear that the new administrations in the republics including the Russian Federation may be very democratic, but they are non-professional in this field. I feel that in the republics they have a very vague notion how involved the defence sphere is.

And meanwhile the defence industry is being reduced to a shambles, with about 500,000 skilled workers and experts leaving it annually. Next, I expect, they will start emigrating to the West.... We shouldn't underestimate those things.

I'm very glad the putsch in August failed, but you should see that the victory has left some negative consequences - some sort of mass rally euphoria. Well, you can demonstrate for a day or two, but then you've got to start working. The productivity in our industry, mind you, is 3-4 times less than in developed countries, in our building industry - even 8 times less, and it's 16 times lower in our agriculture. To catch up with those developed nations we have to reach their productivity.

Corr.: And what should be done for it now, do you think?

V.P.: The basis is a speedier privatization, not like in Moscow where they are about to privatize a few shops. We have to privatize our industries, or turn them into joint-stock companies. And we'd better begin with defence industries as the most mobile and advanced sector which can compete with foreign companies on the world market.

Corr.: Do you mean the defence industry is more interested in market relations than any civilian branch of economy?

V.P.: Precisely. All the more so, since our defence industry was crippled in the past by its excessive secrecy. It was barred from the international division of labour in this field. One country just can't produce all types of armaments at the top technical level. Defence industries should have an outlet in the West, especially when we find prospective partners. Brazil and Argentina, for instance, are interested in buying components for missile fuel, and we have idle capacities producing them.

We ought to debate publicly the problem of arms exports and to revise our secrecy standards. Defence secrets should be protected not by KGB officials, but by producers. Who are better qualified than they to keep their own commercial secrets?

But the main thing is to understand that only with economic freedom granted to joint stock companies will we have goods on our store shelves, and our country will start earning hard currency. And only then our political situation will stabilize.

What we need, I repeat, is solutions to conceptual questions. What we lack is a trim system of government. And the most crying need is for economic freedom to enterprises run by their labour staffs.

NUCLEAR ARMS IN KAZAKHSTAN, UKRAINE AND BELORUSSIA SHOULD BE SCRAPPED TODAY

Ales Adamovich, a well-known author and USSR people's deputy, has been increasingly outspoken on the problem of nuclear arms.

INTERFAX correspondent Nina Kovalenko has interviewed Ales Adamovich.

Corr.: Why are you so preoccupied with the nuclear problem, Mr. Adamovich?

A. Adamovich: Most people have something that's bugging them worst at this or that moment. My nightmare - and it keeps returning to me periodically - is the fear of nuclear holocaust. Some ten years back it was driving me to hallucinations. I wrote then a short novel on "thereafter" - I called it "The Last Pastoral".... Humanity was then really on the brink of a nuclear abyss... with a confrontation of states armed with nuclear weapons, that's always an imminent possibility, but with half the world facing the other half ready to annihilate both the enemy and itself - that's true brinkmanship. We have stepped away from that brink only with restructuring begun by Mikhail Gorbachev.

When people discuss Gorbachev today - what good he has or hasn't done - they tend to forget that his restructuring has taken mankind from that verge of global annihilation, has released us from that horrible situation. My attitude to Mikhail Gorbachev is always dominated by that memory.

Corr.: You said, though, that fear of nuclear holocaust keeps returning to you periodically, didn't you?

A.A.: Yes, it depends on the overall policial and strategic situation in the world. The point is that the means for a total distruction still exist. Though sore progress has been made in that field, the nuclear powers - we and the United States and others - still possess them.

So, when we had that nightmare on August 19 - when the junta seized control - the first thing in my mind was: These guys can unleash a nuclear war.

It was clear they would immediately reverse to the cold war which would be worse than ever with the nukes falling into the hands of irresponsible, self-appointed, revenge-seeking adventurers, - which later proved to be precisely the case - and the whole world might sink back into the abyss of nuclear confrontation, maybe even preventive nuclear strikes....

Corr.: Thank God, the putsch fizzled out and that horrible threat together with it....

A.A.: Yes, concerning the putsch, but as to the threat.... It would seem our victory has triggered off most desirable processes: the crunch of the Communist Party - that "Sword-Bearers" Order in Stalin's words - the end to the old KGB, the demise of the empire.... That doesn't mean, though, that democracy has triumphed in all the republics. Nothing of the kind. Democracy has the upper hand in Russia, it's struggling for supremacy in Belorussia, in the Ukraine, and in the other republics.... It's still struggling, and it's a question if it's going to prevail in Belarus, in the Ukraine, in Kazakhstan, elsewhere in Central Asia.... All those republics are set to secede, and though that's not yet an accomplished political fact, tomorrow it may be so, and the new states will possess nuclear arms on their territory.

On August 23, when we were still all in the White House, (RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] parliament building - IF) I sent a note to Boris Yeltsin through Alexandr Rutskoy. As a people's deputy, I expressed my fear that the failed putsch might still have a sort of nuclear complication. In my Belorussia the most reactionary part of the Communist Party had not only supported the putsch, but had called for it, had demanded an emergency situation. And as soon as the putsch failed, the Belorussian Communist Party hastened to proclaim the republic's independence.

As such, Belorussia's independence is a vitally needed and indispensable historic act, for my Belorussian nation, as no other, has been lost in this melting pot.... But mind you, a situation may emerge when Communists in Belorussia and other republics deploying nuclear arms, frightened of what's going on in the centre - the Communist Party banned, its property nationalized, and so on - will hasten to secede and put up barriers protecting their separate states. They may even blackmail their own democratic forces and democracies in Russia and other republics with the nuclear weapons left in their possession. In other words, secret reactionaries who have flopped with one putsch, but would be willing to hatch another, might entrench in the republics and try to use those nukes against Yeltsin, against the democratic centre, and against their own democratic structures...

That's what I wrote in my note to Yeltsin on August 23.

Now look at further developments. Things seemed smooth at first: Belorussia proclaimed a non-nuclear status, so did the Ukraine... but Kazakhstan kept an enigmatic silence. Then that silence exploded in an alarming report. In the presence of the US Secretary of State Baker, Nazarbayev sharply refused to give up nuclear arms and hand them over to Russia...

Incidentally, I insisted in that note of mine to Yeltsin on August 23 and then in my speech at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet that it would be wrong to try to transfer the nuclear arms from the Ukraine, Belorussia, and Kazakhstan to Russia. That's bound to raise a negative response in those republics, resentment of the type "why should you have them, if we can't?"...

Corr: That's what actually happened. What's your suggestion? If those nukes can's be left in the republics nor transferred to Russia, beyond the Urals, shall we say, what remains...

A.A.: ...is scrapping them, precisely. That can be done under UN supervision, or under an agreement between Gorbachev and Bush. And the world community should help those republics with the process since it's very expensive, as you know.

Corr.: In fact, events in Belorussia are taking that course. It's been in the press that the Belorussian People's Front and the republic's people's deputies have resolved to seek a nuclear-free status. And the weapons are not to be taken to Russia, but destroyed under UN expert control.

A.A.: And with UN aid, for Belorussia can't even cope with the consequences of Chernobyl. Yes, I wish with all my heart that Belorussia should do that and set an example to the Ukraine and Kazakhstan. But much will depend on the conduct of the Russian Federation, - the centre, if we can still call it that.

I think the risk is that Yeltsin and Russia's other leaders would feel that they had reached a certain status-quo, a sort of balance, and balk at a resolute destruction of nuclear weapons in Kazakhstan, the Ukraine, and Belorussia. They might think there was no urgency about it, that the matter would sort itself out with time.... But the longer the worse. Those weapons should be scrapped today, while we still have the chance, with enough democratic forces to support such an act in the republics.

We may lose such forces there tomorrow. Others may come to power in Kazakhstan, the Ukraine, and Belorussia and block that chance to destroy the nukes, or at least make it very difficult. We can't have it, we can't permit our republics, or former repulics, to try to sort out their respective political status or territorial claims with nuclear arms. Any emergence of a new nuclear member in our commonwealth might lead to absolutely unpredictable results.

Congressional Leaders, Cheney Cited on Arms Cuts

PM0310113991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Oct 91 p 1

[TASS report: "United States Awaiting a Counter Step"]

[Text] President Bush and U.S. Defense Secretary Cheney held a meeting with the leaders of Congress at the White House. After the meeting, Senator Mitchell, leader of the Senate Democratic majority, declared that Congress as a whole supports the President's proposals to reduce nuclear arms. Congressman Foley, speaker of the House of Representatives, agreed with Mitchell's opinion.

Addressing the participants in a conference of the national jurists center, Defense Secretary Cheney voiced the hope that the Soviet Union will follow the U.S. example in reducing nuclear arms. It is our hope, he declared, that the Soviet side will prove sufficiently wise to realize that everything we have proposed accords with its own fundamental and long-term interests. The implementation of a considerable reduction in U.S. Armed Forces is clear evidence that the United States does not pose any threat to the Soviet Union.

Cheney reported that over the course of five years, the administration intends to disband one-third of the present divisions, cut the number of naval warships by 100, and reduce personnel by 500,000 servicemen. A plan for a substantial reduction in U.S. military bases and other installations on U.S. territory and abroad is currently being carried out.

Pentagon Spokesman on Additional Cuts

PM0310135891 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 2 Oct 91 Single Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Washington Awaits Counterproposals"]

[Text] Washington—The United States may be prepared to make additional reductions in its nuclear arsenal if the USSR responds positively to the proposals that President Bush put forward and expresses an intention to go even further. A highly placed representative of the U.S. military department, who did not wish to give his name, stated this to THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper.

This person said that "disquiet about the danger of going too far may emerge very quickly if both sides go much further than the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Weapons." According to him, the Pentagon is ready, however, to look at what he called a "sensible agenda."

The Pentagon representative stated that the administration will not be prepared to meet possible proposals by the USSR to abolish sea-launched strategic missiles with multiple reentry vehicles [MRV] and will "come out against placing submarine-launched strategic missiles with MRV's on a par with land-based strategic missiles with MRV's." Washington also does not intend to agree to the abolition of atomic bombs delivered by tactical air forces. The United States has about 1,500 such systems in Europe at present. "There exists a certain minimum we consider is necessary for deterrence," the newspaper says, quoting the words of the highly placed Defense Department representative. According to him, it may be possible to talk about abolishing "other strategic systems." These systems were not named.

"We would be happy if the USSR were to take a step within the framework of the agenda which we have put forward and also stated that it wanted to do something additional," the Defense Department representative noted.

Talks on Nuclear Arms Reduction Begin in Moscow

LD0610202191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1550 GMT 6 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Rostislav Gertsen]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Oct (TASS)—Soviet-American consultations on the issue of reducing nuclear weapons began in Moscow this morning. During the break, the heads of the delegations held a brief meeting with representatives of the mass media.

"Today we have reasons to speak about a joint Soviet-American initiative in the reduction of arms," stated Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksey Obukhov, head of the Soviet delegation.

Replying to questions from journalists, the Soviet diplomat expressed the hope that the world superpowers, primarily the United States, would respond to the appeal from USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev and join the Soviet moratorium on nuclear testing. "If this problem is resolved, our progress along the road of disarmament will be much more rapid," he stated.

Aleksey Obukhov reported that the Soviet initiatives proposed by Mikhail Gorbachev in his address on Soviet television Saturday were positively received by the U.S. side and by President George Bush; however, they have not yet been discussed at the expert level.

Answering a question on the extent to which, in his view, Mikhail Gorbachev's initiatives are commensurate with the proposals of the U.S. President, Aleksey Obukhov said: "We have several proposals that go beyond the proposals of the U.S. side. In this sense, Gorbachev has gone further than Bush. But if we take both packages as a whole—the U.S. initiatives, and the efforts of the U.S. Administration and of President Bush personally, were very highly regarded by the Soviet side—then what is now emerging is a qualitatively new situation in the field of nuclear disarmament. This situation is very favorable for making new important decisions, and in this sense, it seems to me we are experiencing a completely new era in world politics."

Reginald Bartholomew, U.S. under secretary of state for international security affairs and head of the U.S. delegation, was brief. "We are working fruitfully together on the initiatives of our presidents," he stated. "As for the viewpoint of the U.S. side, it was excellently reflected in the address by President Bush in the Rose Garden."

Military Specialists Depart for U.S. Talks

LD0510084991 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0800 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] A delegation of military specialists from the USSR and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Defense Ministries today departed for the United States led by Konstantin Kobets, chairman of the committee for preparing and implementing military reform under the USSR State Council and RSFSR state adviser on defense. Speaking to an INTERFAX correspondent, Major General (Viktor Samoylov), a member of the committee, noted that consultative negotiations are planned with U.S. specialists aimed at establishing uniformity in forming a new defense doctrine.

Agreement is to be reached on a uniform terminology; for example, determining what meaning is to be assigned by the sides to the concepts of collective security, the danger of war, military threat, and so on.

Worldwide Issues

Further Reportage on Pankin Activities at UN

Meets DPRK, ROK Counterparts

LD0510052591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0855 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] New York, 2 Oct (TASS)—USSR Foreign Minister B.D. Pankin today completed a large cycle of bilateral and multilateral meetings with the heads of state and government and the ministers of foreign affairs who are participanting in the 46th UN General Assembly session.

On Tuesday he met with Jordanian Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Nusur [name and title as received] and the Yemeni Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani. During the course of both conversations there was an exchange of opinions on questions of bilateral relations, the Arabian Peninsula situation, and the Persian Gulf zone. The progress of preparations for a Near East peace conference was discussed. Both ministers emphasized the impact these countries have on Soviet-U.S. interaction in Near East affairs. The fact that the USSR and the United States are co-initiators of a peace conference inspires hopes for its success.

At B.D. Pankin's meeting with DPRK Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, the good, friendly nature of interrelations between the USSR and the DPRK in the past was stressed. The hope was expressed for their future development in a favorable direction. An understanding was reaffirmed about a visit to Pyongyang in November of this year by the USSR foreign minister, during the course of which the whole complex of Soviet-North Korean relations will be analyzed.

In B.D. Pankin's conversation with Yi Sang-ok, ROK foreign minister, the intensive nature of Soviet-South Korean contacts was highly appraised, particularly the meetings at summit level. Specific questions on future cooperation in the economic sphere were discussed.

Comments on Talks With Baker

PM0310102591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Sep 91 Union Edition p 4

[By A. Shalnev: "Commercial Banks Form a Line"]

[Text] New York—It is by no means impossible that in the very near future there will be some progress in resolving an old and truly tragic question—the fate of our prisoners of war in Afghanistan. That was the impression USSR Foreign Minister Boris Pankin received after his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker Thursday [26 September].

According to our minister, "Washington's willingness to... most actively pursue work that would result in the release of our prisoners of war made a good impression" on him. In particular, the minister mentioned that the secretary of state will be talking about this at a meeting Friday with the head of the Pakistani Foreign Policy Department Friday [27 September]. "Maybe," Boris Pankin added, "we will at least get a list of all our people."

The other main topic of his talks with Baker, which lasted longer than planned and will be supplemented by another conversation on Friday, was humanitarian and other assistance for the Soviet Union. In conversation with Soviet journalists, Boris Pankin talked about the idea of a trip to Moscow by "a group of senior representatives with real power from the Big 'Seven' and the 12 European countries for talks with Ivan Silayev and his committee about how to organize the assistance to go to the USSR and how to organize the infrastructure."

In view of what he heard from Baker, the minister also stressed that the U.S. side "would rather see the conclusion of an economic union making it clear that the USSR had embarked on the path of major economic reforms." Until that happens, as Baker himself made it clear in his answers to journalists' questions, it is too early to talk about any aid—except for purely humanitarian and technical aid.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, however, reported that commercial banks were lining up to offer the Soviet Union credits for the purchase of grain. Only a few weeks ago no bank was prepared to do this, and now they are standing in line. This is due to the U.S. Administration's decision to guarantee the entire cost of the credits—not just 98 percent, as before. In other words, Washington has created an absolutely no-risk situation for the banks: If for some reason we turn out not to be creditworthy, the banks will get their money back from the U.S. Government.

But there is one problem: The 100-percent guarantees apply only to $211 million of the approximately $800 million that, in principle, could be allocated to us for the purchase of food from the United States. There are suggestions, though, that the administration will agree to guarantee fully the remaining amount, but this has not been finally decided on.

As the minister told us, the secretary of state expressed "profound satisfaction with the fact that the Soviet Union was prepared to begin energetically the process of ratification of the two disarmanment agreements—on strategic and on conventional types of armaments. On 9 October, the ratification schedule will be examined at a Soviet-U.S. meeting in Washington at the deputy minister level, in order to give it a strong shove." "But we will also insist," Boris Pankin added, "on the need to hold talks as soon as possible on tactical nuclear armaments and on halting nuclear tests."

Summing up some aspects of his New York meetings with colleagues from a number of countries, the USSR foreign minister said that despite the "masochistic statements that are sometimes made by our press—to the effect that the country has broken up and so on—we are looked upon as a great power and we are told: Do not forget that you must play your part in the world as a great power. That is what both the Third World and Europe want." Who told our minister that? In particular, France, Canada, Iraq, and Syria.

The United States was not mentioned in that list.

Assesses Results of UN Session

LD0510020291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0015 GMT 5 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Oct (TASS)—We consider the main results of the Soviet delegation's work at the 46th UN General Assembly session to be that we were able to tell the world about our country's movement along the path of democracy and creating a law-governed society, and about all the achievements and problems, said USSR Foreign Minister Boris Pankin. He gave an interview to a TASS correspondent at Vnukovo airport on his return to Moscow late on Friday evening. The head of the Soviet Union's foreign policy department had been taking part in the work of the 46th UN General Assembly session, and made working visits to Sweden and Czechoslovakia.

We convinced ourselves, B. Pankin went on, of the fact that the world is in solidarity with us, the world is in sympathy with us, the world desires the success of all our revolutionary transformations, and, at the same time, the world wants to see us as a single state, within which we will organize ourselves, as we indeed wish, as a mighty and good state, so that the past superpower rivalry may be turned into rivalry on the basis of good. In New York we managed to resolve and "move forward" a whole series of major problems, the minister said, including, for example, the arrival in mid-October of a very high-level economic delegation "of the 12 and the seven" for talks with Ivan Silayev "at a new stage," following the Moscow series of talks, when it was made clear "who to talk to, where to talk, or through whom to act." Now, the minister said, all these issues are clear. "Very strong progress" has been made, in B. Pankin's opinion, in settling the Afghan problem. Meetings were held in the United States with the foreign ministers of all interested countries, with the Mojahedin and the leadership of four of the seven Afghan groups. A great deal has been done, the head of the foreign policy department thinks, toward preparing a peace conference on the Near East, where "there are still unresolved questions, but the matter is moving in the right direction." In his view, the conference will take place in a European country, "possibly in Prague." Taking account of the "insistent calls both from the Arab states and Israel," the minister intends to make a working visit to the Near East in the near future. The United States would also like the Soviet minister to make such a trip.

B. Pankin said he had talks in New York with colleagues from 50 states on the widest circle of problems. Speaking about his working visit to Czechoslovakia, Boris Pankin stressed the importance of the state treaty between the two countries which was initialled in Prague, and which he said "reflects all the present-day realities." At the same time, he went on, we are ready to sign the same sort of treaty with Hungary, and Poland is "on the way." This, he commented, is being taken as "the USSR turning its face to Eastern Europe, which was without any justification left on the sidelines, if one can put it like that." Regarding the visit to Sweden, the minister went on, we managed to talk there "with the entire Scandinavian region," including on matters of economic cooperation.

Boris Pankin also said that on Saturday he is to meet in Moscow with U.S. Under Secretary of State Bartholomew to take part in Soviet-U.S. consultations in connection with the U.S. President's initiative on nuclear weapons cuts. The minister noted that the Soviet side at the negotiations is expected to "give an adequate response," and, the minister thinks, will put forward its own proposals on this matter.

Further on USSR Request for IMF Membership

Foreign Ministry Official on Status

OW0510053691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1505 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Report on interview with Sergey Chestnoy, Foreign Ministry official, by Valeriy Martianov in Moscow; date not given; from the "Soviet Business Weekly" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As has been expected, the establishment of official relations between the Soviet Union and the International Monetary Fund will take place following an exchange of letters between Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and the Executive Director of the IMF Michel Camdessus during the latter's visit to Moscow in early October. The World Bank, for its part, is expected by experts to follow suit later the same month.

Economic analyst of "INTERFAX" Valeriy Martianov reports from the Foreign Ministry of the USSR where he was given an interview by Mr Sergey Chestnoy, who is an official at the ministry.

The text of an agreement granting the Soviet Union the status of a special associate of the IMF has finally been agreed upon by the two sides, Mr Chestnoy said.

According to Mr Chestnoy, the agreement provides for technical assistance to the Soviet Union in the areas of drawing up market-oriented legislation, privatisation of state-owned property, and the training of personnel, particularly for the financial sector. A separate clause covers the issues related to the IMF's relationships with the republics which used to be part of the USSR, but have now declared independence. The IMF and the republics may conclude bilateral agreements on specific cooperation projects.

According to information available to "INTERFAX", formal relations between the Soviet Union and the IMF will be established through an exchange of letters between Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and the Executive Director of the IMF Michel Camdessus when the latter visits Moscow in early October.

As for the World Bank, it will sign an agreement with the Soviet Union on technical assistance, which will define the legal framework for such assistance and include a programme of specific actions for a three months' period. The text of this agreement has been approved by teams of experts from both sides and will very shortly be communicated to the board of the World Bank and the president of the USSR.

In the view of Mr Chestnoy, the World Bank will probably grant the USSR the special associate status in the second half of October.

Asked how soon the IMF and the World Bank will establish official ties with Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia, Mr Chestnoy said that the admission of the Baltic states to these organisations could take place as early as October 15-17, the date of the next annual joint meeting of the boards of directors of the IMF and the World Bank in Bangkok.

Sergei Chestnoy said that the Soviet Union has also received a formal invitation to send a delegation to Bangkok.

According to information received by "INTERFAX", the Soviet delegation is expected to be headed by Grigoriy Yavlinskiy.

Gorbachev Receives IMF Head

LD0510103391 Moscow TASS in English 1009 GMT 5 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Suprun]

[Text] Moscow October 5 TASS—A talk between Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and International Monetary Fund Managing Director Michel Camdessus has just begun in the Kremlin.

TASS learnt from well-informed sources that Camdessus arrived in Moscow specially to hand over to the head of the Soviet state an official document certifying the fact of the USSR's admission to the International Monetary Fund as an associate member.

Camdessus is expected to inform journalists about the details of the talk in the Kremlin and our country's admission to the IMF at a meeting to be held at the Soviet Foreign Ministry Press Centre today.

IMF Experts To Arrive 'Next Week'

LD0510172191 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 5 TASS—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Michel Camdessus, managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), on Saturday [5 October] signed and exchanged official letters on the Soviet Union's associate membership in the IMF.

The agreement will take affect immediately and the first group of IMF experts will arrive in the Soviet Union next week to provide technical assistance to help the Soviet Union build a market economy.

Camdessus expressed confidence that technological assistance and proper incentives will allow the Soviet Union to become an economic super power in several years.

He said the IMF believes world economic progress will largely depend on the success of economic reforms in the Soviet Union.

'Special Associated Member'

OW0510155391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1415 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The USSR has joined the International Monetary Fund [IMF] as a special associated member. On Saturday President Mikhail Gorbachev conferred with the Fund's managing director Michel Camdessus and exchanged official letters with him. An agreement between the USSR and IMF went into effect.

M. Gorbachev's letter expresses his country's willingness to set up a framework of cooperation between the USSR and IMF and sign an agreement on special association.

The request to join the IMF points out that the issue of special association was endorsed by members of the USSR Council of State. If the IMF finds this proposal acceptable, the present letter and the answer confirming its receipt will be viewed as an agreement between the USSR and the IMF.

The status of a special associated member, Michel Camdessus told newsmen in Moscow following his meeting with M. Gorbachev, will enable the USSR to receive technical aid and consultations in resolving macroeconomic problems. Under the agreement the IMF will give such aid also to the republics at their request. They will bear particular responsibility for carrying out economic reforms in the USSR. The republics whose independence is recognized by the world community will be able to have relations with the IMF independently, said M. Camdessus.

A group of experts will begin its work in Moscow on Monday, said M. Camdessus. It will draft plans for giving the USSR technical aid. The IMF will open its mission in Moscow.

M. Camdessus qualified the agreement between the USSR and the IMF as paving the way for enabling the USSR and republics to take their appropriate place in the world community.

IMF Official: Agreement 'Historic'

LD0510183391 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] Michel Camdessus held a news conference at the USSR Foreign Ministry today. He called the meeting with the Soviet president fruitful and constructive, and the signed agreement historic. Camdessus said the document provided for the possibility of granting the USSR wide-ranging technical aid. Economic fields in which cooperation will develop include: macroeconomic policy, financial planning, payments, taxation policy, banking, and statistics. Under the terms of the agreement, technical aid and assistance in policymaking also will be granted to individual republics at their request.

Moscow Conference on Human Dimension Concludes

Petrovskiy Calls Meeting 'Success'

LD0410181591 Moscow TASS in English 1750 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Nikishov]

[Text] Moscow October 4 TASS—The problem of preserving and honouring international commitments is central to honouring human rights, Soviet Deputy Foreign Secretary Vladimir Petrovskiy, who was the executive secretary of Moscow's CSCE Conference on the Human Dimension, told a news conference at Slavyanskaya Hotel today, summing up some of the results of the forum and singling out the essence of the work to be done within the CSCE framework in the future.

Petrovskiy especially stressed the fact that "despite problems and the complicated situation in the Soviet Union, the conference was held exactly as scheduled". On the whole, he said, it was a success, a fact recorded in the final document.

The Moscow forum's distinguishing features, Petrovskiy said, were the participation of the foreign ministers of almost all CSCE member-countries in the opening of the conference and the high degree of openness of all of all meetings. Petrovskiy said the most important were the forum's decisions on ensuring unobstructed activity by journalists and the abolition of closed zones.

Unfortunately, Petrovskiy noted, many delegations made no progress in the field of ethnic minority rights and confined themselves to reiterating their earlier statements.

Petrovskiy favoured the radicalization of CSCE mechanisms by making their decisions binding.

"The CSCE agenda has not been exhausted," he stressed, "and the Moscow conference is not the last chapter in its work in the field of the human dimension".

Petrovskiy Cites Pankin Speech

OW0410174591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1702 GMT 4 Oct 91

[From "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The CSCE human rights conference in Moscow has come to an end. It has been underway since September 19. The executive secretary of the Moscow conference, USSR First Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy has said that for the Soviet Union the conference was a unique event. It was very important that the European human rights conference took place in Moscow in a dramatically new situation, at a time when totalitarian structures were collapsed and the ideals and values of democracy gained strength as part of the global process of democratic renewal.

This theme was present in the speech at the conference by the Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin. The co-chairman of the Soviet delegation to the conference, chairman of the human rights committee of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet, former political prisoner Sergei Kovalev said that Pankin's speech was "revolutionary". As a matter of fact, the Soviet foreign minister said that the Soviet Union was open to criticism, ready to listen to it and take it into account and would not refer to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs. Kovalev said that the Soviet side made a major step forward.

Vladimir Petrovskiy believes it is highly significant that Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were full-fledged members of the CSCE conference. That was an event of exclusive importance to those countries themselves and the Helsinki process in general. The growth of the number of countries involved in the all-European process and the expansion of its potential confirms that renewal in Europe can and must be peaceful and rely on constitutions and the human rights rules, principles and standards developed within the framework of the CSCE.

The co-chairman of the Soviet delegation, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Deryabin has held a closing news conference. You will be able to read the highlights of his speech in IF [INTERFAX] evening news.

Perm-35 Prisoners To Be Released

OW0510020091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2000 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The co-president of the Soviet delegation at the Moscow CSCE Conference, Sergey Kovalev, announced at a press conference on Friday that 10 political prisoners from the Perm-35 zone are to be released in the next 10 days.

Kovalev also said that in the next month and a half he hoped to obtain information regarding a long list of "refuseniks". "I hope that those who have already spent five years since they were last party to state secrets will be free to leave the country", he said.

Kovalev underlined the need for a legal solution to human rights problems, such as the abolition of the residence permit (propiska) system and a solution to the issue of conscientious objectors many of whom are still behind bars.

He thinks that an amnesty for conscientious objectors can be expected. However, this is not a solution to the problem because after the autumn call-up more of this category of prisoner may appear. Kovalev spoke of the need for an alternative to military service and also for radical reforms within the Army itself, which would allow it to become professional.

Deryabin Interviewed on Results

LD0610122791 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0830 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Yuriy Deryabin by observer Viktor Levin; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] As we have already reported, the gathering of the CSCE Conference on the Human Dimension which was held in Moscow from 10 September to 4 October ended in the adoption of a very full final document. There is still, however, a great amount of work to be done. Our observer Viktor Levin speaks about this with Yuriy Deryabin, USSR deputy foreign minister.

[Levin] How do you view the future of the Conference on the Human Dimension process?

[Deryabin] Indeed, a whole number of questions have arisen in this respect, including among our partners. Are such conferences needed? It seems to me that one should not give up conferences of this kind. An example of why is the results of Copenhagen and now the results in Moscow, because at these conferences we first review what has been taking place; that is, it is an opportunity to express concern over human rights in other states. The second important aspect is that at these conferences we are able to discuss new norms and new standards in the human rights field and raise them even higher, and to set up new mechanisms. This should not, however, be the dominating and sole form of the human dimension. I think that operational forms, so to speak, for improving and creating new mechanisms and structures in the field of human rights and for monitoring human rights—through the adoption of the procedures that were the subject of the German proposals—should come more and more to the forefront.

Here I should like to say that in my opinion the third basket is not exhasuted, as some were asking. Of course, much has been accomplished in the sphere of the third basket; that is, human rights and humanitarian assistance. First, it has been transformed from a basket of confrontation to a basket of cooperation. Second, a very large number of new norms have been adopted. There has been Copenhagen, Moscow, and the Paris Charter. Indeed, this is so, but nevertheless, it is a matter of giving effect to the words. There is no longer any need for new declarations. Perhaps we need new norms, but no new declarations. There is a need for actions, mechanisms, and structures. That is the first thing.

Second, not all problems have been solved—far from it. We have not managed to go far enough in the sphere of national minority rights. I think that in the future, one of the most complex areas of work with respect to the third basket will be ensuring the rights of national minorities. There are many other matters that have arisen and are becoming more and more pressing. There is the question of ensuring the rights of illiterates. So the third basket will continue to fill up, and it is important that it fills up with cooperation and not confrontation. Incidentally, you know, in speaking of the third basket, we often limit it to human rights; that is, of course, the chief issue, the pivotal issue, but the third basket also includes cultural cooperation, education, and so on. There are things still to be accomplished in this regard.

United States & Canada

Gorbachev Assesses Visit by U.S. Investors

LD0710020191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2049 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 6 Oct (TASS)—Mikhail Gorbachev has assessed the visit to our country by a group of U.S. investors as an expression of support by prestigious U.S. representatives for democratic forces in the USSR and for the movement toward a free and open economy.

"The failure of the coup d'etat, says his address to participants in a Soviet-U.S. conference opening in Moscow today on the investment of U.S. pension funds in the USSR, showed how far the country has traveled along the road from totalitarianism toward democracy. Noting that the difficulties and problems have not diminished and that we must and shall bear the main burden ourselves, the USSR president stressed: "In your solidarity and readiness to share our concerns with us, we see not just human compassion but also understanding of how much is at stake for the whole world community and how much everyone stands to gain when we have a healthy economy based on competition, initiative, and enterprise."

Noting that today, when the country is rapidly eliminating obstacles along the road of foreign capital investment, Mikhail Gorbachev expressed confidence that "the expectations of those who believe in the potential of our new union and in the capacity and resolve of our peoples to proceed along the road of democracy and liberty will be justified".

Volskiy Urges Improved U.S. Trade Relations

LD0710093591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0435 GMT 5 Oct 91

[By correspondent Ivan Lebedev]

[Text] Washington, 5 Oct (TASS)—A.I. Volskiy, deputy head of the Committee for the Operational Management of the USSR Economy and president of the USSR Scientific Industrial Union, met here on Friday, 4 October, with Brent Scowcroft, the U.S. President's national security adviser. He also had meetings with the leadership of the Defense Department and representatives of the U.S. State Department. A.I. Volskiy is in Washington at the invitation of a number of the country's public organizations and business circles.

"I discussed with Brent Scowcroft questions relating to the conversion of military production and its transfer to peaceful footing, as well as other important problems of mutual interest," the deputy head of the Committee for the Operational Management of the USSR Economy said in an interview given to the TASS correspondent.

Speaking on the same day to representatives of U.S. business circles, including many heads of major U.S. industrial companies, A.I. Volskiy noted: "We are clearly aware that the successful reforming of our national economy is impossible without its incorporation into the system of world economic relations. Many years of life behind the Iron Curtain have convinced us that a closed and self-isolated economy cannot be effective. At the same time the organization of a stably functioning economic mechanism accords with the deep vital interests of the West too. The USSR's real integration into the world economic community is one of the main guarantees of the irreversibility of our reforms and that an uncontrolled disintegration of the USSR and the emergence on its ruins of not very predictable political regimes in a position of settling economic, political, territorial, and military scores between themselves is fraught with an escalation of violence that would be reflected on a global scale."

A.I. Volskiy stressed that, "While opening up the country to mutually beneficial international cooperation, we are paying particular attention to the whole range of our relations with the United States." According to him, this is happening not only because the United States "is a leader of the world economy." The Soviet Union and Russia have much in common with the United States," he noted. "Recently, we have taken gigantic political strides toward partnership. Unfortunately, tthe same cannot be said about our economic relations. They are at a level that is staggeringly low for the potential of both great powers. The United States accounts on average for two percent of our country's external trade, while our share of U.S. foreign trade amounts to a mere 0.3 percent. There can only be one evaluation of such a situation: these are symbolic, rather than business, relations. They cannot satisfy either the Soviet or, I think, the U.S. side."

"The future must be based on a fundamentally new model of economic relations between our countries," the president of the USSR Scientific Industrial Union pointed out. In his view, "direct contacts between Soviet and U.S. companies" must be one of its main elements. "It is essential to expand the scale of Soviet-U.S. trade," he commented. "An important step here could be provided by the qualitative expansion of U.S. exports to our country in the field of high-technology goods and everything that is the glory of U.S. companies and is extremely necessary to us for modernizing the economy and stabilizing the consumer market. As for Soviet deliveries, they will expand as the economy is reformed, including through the improvement of their structures."

A.I. Volskiy emphasized that a further "vital direction of economic cooperation had to be the attraction of direct capital investment" by the United States in the Soviet economy. In this connection, he urged U.S. businessmen "not to be afraid" of developing trade and economic ties with the Soviet Union. "The country's potential is capable of ensuring the investment profitability level needed by the West," the deputy head of the USSR Committee for the Operational Management of the National Economy declared.

After his address, A.I. Volskiy answered numerous questions from those attending the meeting.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Visits St. Petersburg

LD0610131191 Moscow TASS in English 1137 GMT 6 Oct 91

[By correspondent Irina Zolotareva]

[Text] St. Petersburg October 6 TASS— Edward Madigan, U.S. secretary of agriculture, arrived here on Saturday for a two-day visit. He had a closed-door meeting with Deputy Mayor Vyacheslav Shcherbakov.

After their 90-minute meeting, the U.S. agriculture secretary and the deputy mayor answered journalists' questions.

Madigan said the U.S. delegation had arrived in the Soviet Union to examine on the spot the emergency food situation that had taken shape in the Soviet Union and to continue talks on the sale of U.S. grain to the Soviet Union.

On the delegation are many businessmen who are to find out which technical aid can be given to the Soviet Union in the future.

The delegation will subsequently submit an official report to U.S. President George Bush, whose government is interested in cooperation not only with the centre but also with individual regions of the USSR, Madigan said.

In response to U.S. journalists' questions, Shcherbakov emphasised that the food situation in the Soviet Union is exceptionally hard.

However, the city authorities will do their best to avert hunger which is spoken of so much now. They look for a way out both inside and outside the country, Shcherbakov said.

The deputy mayor voiced hope that the U.S. agriculture secretary's visit would be also constructive in this respect.

After visiting St. Petersburg, Madigan will go to Kiev.

Northeast Asia

Japan Interested in Success of Reforms

LD0610131691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1842 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vasiliy Titov]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Oct—Japan is interested in the success of reforms in the Soviet Union and is prepared to provide consultants, expert help, and assistance with the training of specialists, Tsutomu Tanaka, deputy minister of foreign economic links of Japan, stressed in an interview with a TASS correspondent. He said that the main aim of his 10-day working visit to the USSR, which ended today, had been "to study the situation in the country, to assess the course of the economic reforms, and to work out specific recommendations for the practical implementation of the accords on technical cooperation reached during the visit to Japan by USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev."

Speaking of the possibilities for large-scale Japanese aid to the USSR, Tsutomu Tanaka linked the possibility of granting it with the resolution of the territorial question. He noted, however, "we will not refuse to grant the USSR emergency and humanitarian aid."

Japanese Business Delegation Arrives for Talks

PM0410101391 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Oct 91 p 1

[From RIA, TASS, and ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA roundup under "News" rubric: "Japan Insures Trade With USSR"]

[Text] A delegation of representatives from Japanese business and government circles headed by Yasuo Hayashi, deputy chief of the trade policy administration at the Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry, has arrived in Moscow. The delegation also includes representatives of the Bank of Tokyo.

The need for a trip to the USSR by a group of Japanese officials and financiers is connected with the decision adopted recently by official Tokyo to introduce state insurance for some Japanese companies' foreign trade operations with the Soviet Union. During a week-long stay in Moscow, the delegation plans to hold meetings with the leadership of the Interrepublic Economic Committee, representatives of the Russian Council of Ministers, and also the USSR Bank for Foreign Economic Activity. One of its main aims is to reveal the potential of the center and the Republic to provide payment for Japanese deliveries and evaluate the future trading partner.

Soviet-Japanese Nuclear Power Talks Scheduled

LD0410102891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1152 GMT 3 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vladimir Prokhorov]

[Text] Tokyo, 3 Oct (TASS)—Specific issues of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Japan regarding the peaceful use of nuclear power are planned for discussion at bilateral consultations in Moscow on 28-29 October, according to an official from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The consultations will take place in accordance with an agreement on cooperation in the sphere of the peaceful use of nuclear power signed by USSR President M.S. Gorbachev during his visit to Japan in April this year and will become the first practical step in its implementation. It is proposed to discuss questions of Japanese technical assistance to the USSR in strengthening security at atomic power stations and the procedure whereby Soviet specialists can train at Japanese atomic power stations. During their stay in Moscow, Japanese nuclear power specialists intend to visit and become familiar with work at an atomic power station not far from the Soviet capital.

DPRK Premier's UN Speech Notes Bush Plan

SK0510104591 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 0900 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Yon Hyong-muk, DPRK premier, spoke at the 46th session of the UN General Assembly on 2 October.

Station commentator Alekseyev comments on that speech as follows:

Premier Yon Hyong-muk's speech is worth noting in that it was the first official speech delivered by the DPRK since that country became a member of this world body at the same time as ROK in September. What is more, in his speech, Premier Yon Hyong-muk touched on an issue that has long attracted attention from the international community, including Asia: the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula.

The premier said that the proposal advanced by U.S. President Bush a few days ago makes it possible to solve this issue as a whole.

As is known, the U.S. President announced Washington's intention to unilaterally scrap all U.S. tactical nuclear weapons, and this is directly associated with the southern half of the Korean peninsula.

Even though the Pentagon has not officially admitted it, about 100—and far more than that according to other data—nuclear bombs and other types of tactical nuclear weapons are deployed in the southern half of the Korean peninsula.

Pyongyang and capitals of some Far East countries have long regarded the deployment of U.S. nuclear weapons as a cause of destabilizing the situation in that region.

Premier Yon Hyong-muk said if the United States really removes nuclear weapons from South Korea, it will make an inspection of the nuclear facilities inside the DPRK possible.

As is well known, the DPRK signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1989 [as heard], which stipulates that if atomic equipment is already in a country's territory, the host country must place it under international inspection. The purpose of these inspections is to verify that the country in question is not manufacturing nuclear weapons. Up until now, such an inspection inside the DPRK's territory has remained unsolved. This fact has spawned doubts and hurt Pyongyang's stature in the international community.

In this regard, the DPRK has stated on the podium of the United Nations that it has neither the intention to produce nuclear weapons nor the ability to do so. The statement has drawn a great deal of attention as it was made by the head of the government.

As I have said earlier, what counts most is that the head of the DPRK Government has made clear Pyongyang's stand that if the United States removes nuclear weapons from South Korea, it will immediately tolerate an inspection of the nuclear facilities in the Republic. This means that the obstacles in the way of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula will be removed.

DPRK Envoy Comments on U.S. Disarmament Plan

SK0410045591 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 1300 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] A news conference was held at the DPRK Embassy in the Soviet Union in Moscow yesterday. Son Song-pil, DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union, informed the Soviet reporters of his country's Foreign Ministry statement.

The statement welcomes President Bush's decision on unilaterally abolishing the shorter-range nuclear weapons from U.S. ground and naval bases. The statement also stresses that if the United States truly withdraws nuclear weapons from South Korea, it will open a way for Pyongyang to sign a nuclear safeguards agreement.

Touching on the present situation on the Korean peninsula, Son Song-pil stressed that the year 1995 has been proclaimed to be the year for Korea's national reunification. The ambassador noted that a patriotic movement is spreading among the Korean people, particularly the students, but that the Seoul regime is obstructing in various ways the (?civilian diplomacy) and the exchanges and mutual visits between the social activists of the North and the South. Son Song-pil stated that the acts of Seoul prove that its mentioning of exchange, openness, and reunification is nothing but a propaganda tactic.

U.S. Troop Withdrawal From DMZ Discussed

SK0410072391 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 0900 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] According to foreign news reports, U.S. troops withdrew from the DMZ in Korea [as heard] a few days ago.

With respect to this, station commentator Viktorov writes the following:

This measure is greatly symbolic. It is symbolic not just because virtually all the U.S. military personnel went out of the DMZ for the first time in the 38 years since the Korean war ended. The withdrawal of U.S. troops this time brings into sharp relief the recent trends of cutting U.S. troop strength in the southern half of the Korean peninsula.

It was in the mid-1970's that the number of U.S. troops stationed in the southern half of the Korean peninsula reached its peak. According to a classified document recently made public by the U.S. Defense Department, a total of 680 tactical nuclear weapons were deployed in South Korea at that time.

U.S. nuclear shells and bombs were massed in an Air Force base in Kunsan southwest of Seoul. Later, the United States took Earnest John missiles and [name indistinct] missiles away from the southern half of Korea and then dismantled nuclear land mines.

According to data carried by a magazine published in Chicago called THE BULLETIN OF THE ATOMIC SCIENTISTS, about 100 U.S. tactical nuclear weapons are deployed in the southern half of Korea.

Judging from all facts, these dangerous weapons also will be liquidated before long. President Bush's recent statement on reducing U.S. nuclear capabilities by scraping all manner of tactical nuclear weapons, including tactical nuclear weapons deployed in the military bases in the territory of the United States, also leads to such a conclusion.

To speak of South Korea directly, Secretary of Defense Cheney said that nine Pentagon bases there [as heard] will cease to function and about 40,000 military (?personnel) will be withdrawn.

U.S. President Bush said that the latest step taken by the U.S. Administration is based on the assumption that the Soviet Union no longer poses a threat. Following this, even President Gorbachev stressed that the Soviet side, too, will take an equivalent step.

A host of other places on the face of earth will benefit from the fact that major powers have decided against proposing other countries as targets for nuclear weapons. This can also be said about the case of the Korean peninsula.

It is not accidental that the DPRK and ROK were the first to hail the U.S. proposal for reducing nuclear capabilities. This is because the representatives of the two Korean states will have to play leading roles in settling the questions existing on the Korean peninsula.

The recent entry of these two states into the United Nations has provided new favorable potential. Given the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the 38th Parallel, the expected liquidation of U.S. nuclear capabilities in the southern half of Korea should be considered one ingredient in coordinating regional disputes by political means.

Hyundai Ready To Develop Sakhalin Coal Fields

OW0310043691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2254 GMT 2 Oct 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Hyundai, a Korean giant, said it was willing to participate in the development of Sakhalin coal fields together with the Soviet company Sakhalinugol. The Koreans suggest that loss-making coal companies and brown coal fields be leased to Western companies, if local authorities agree to the transfer.

Hyundai is more active on the Soviet market than other South Korean companies. In addition to coal field development, it plans to develop oil and gas fields in Sakhalin and Yakutia, to build a refinery in Surgut, West Siberia and to develop a copper-ore field.

South Koreans Provide Medical Aid, Equipment

LD0310020291 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] Tashkent October 2 TASS—The South Korean organization "Action for Russians," founded by South Korean Christians and aimed at providing free of charge health services for the Soviet citizens, recently sent a number of highly trained specialists to Moscow, St. Petersburg, Alma-Ata, Khabarovsk, Bishkek and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk.

A team of four South Korean doctors, who went to Tashkent at their own expense during their vacations, began working just one hour after arrival and consulted more than fifteen hundred Soviet patients over a four-day stay in Uzbekistan. The guests shared their healing experience with Uzbek specialists and gave them some highly effective Korean medications.

The Uzbek charity and health fund decided to pay some expenses incurred in future international beneficial programmes in Uzbekistan. For their part, South Korean specialists promised to provide medical equipment for the republic's hospitals and kindergartens.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Cambodia Urges Indian Role in UN Peace Force

BK0610083791 Moscow Radio Moscow in Cambodian 1100 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Vasant Georgiyev commentary]

[Text] Comrade Hun Sen, prime minister of the State of Cambodia, recently asked the Indian Government to send military personnel to his country as part of a United Nations peacekeeping force to assist in organizing free elections under UN auspices. In this connection, our observer, (Vasant Georgiyev), has the following comments:

The Cambodian Government head made this proposal at a meeting with his Indian counterpart, Narasimha Rao, in New Delhi. The two nonaligned prime ministers discussed in detail the prospect of an imminent political settlement to be endorsed at the Paris international conference in late October. A ceremony is expected to be held at the conference for the signing of an agreement to put a definite end to the civil war in Cambodia.

As the Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman has already announced, the Indian side has expressed its readiness to heed the Cambodian side's request. It must be said that India is experienced in taking part in UN peacekeeping operations. It is worth recalling that in the 1940's, Indian led the UN force dispatched to Indochina in keeping with the Geneva Accord that brought the conflict between Vietnam and France to an end.

Another significant reason that motivates Phnom Penh to make the request to New Delhi is that India is the foremost country that has recognized, and established diplomatic ties with, the Phnom Penh government, thereby creating high-level relations of mutual trust. The Indian and Cambodian leaders have kept in touch with one another, and Comrade Hun Sen's recent visit to New Delhi was the fourth one since 1988. As for the trade and economic cooperation between the two countries, it has moderately expanded. During the visit, a statement was issued in New Delhi saying that the Indian Government would examine with great attention the Cambodian side's request for food and medical assistance for victims of recent floods in Cambodia.

Finally, India continues to join forces with other countries in categorically denouncing the genocidal Pol Pot regime in Cambodia. Presently, it vigorously opposes the recurrence of the regime.

Certainly, the final resolution of the problem of the composition of the UN peacekeeping force will be adopted only after the holding of the Paris international conference with the active participation of the Supreme National Council. In our view, however, it would be extremely useful if India were also included in the composition. This would reinforce the international community's efforts to bring peace to Cambodia, our observer concludes.

Malaysian Defense Minister Interviewed

PM0410095991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 Oct 91 First Edition p 5

[Interview with Malaysian Federation Defense Minister Datok Sri Mohamed Najib by Captain S. Sidorov; place and date of interview not stated; first paragraph is introduction: "Malaysia: No Problem With the Army"]

[Text] A few days ago, Malaysian Federation Defense Minister Datok Sri Mohamed Najib ended his visit to our country. The visit marked the beginning of military contacts between the Soviet Union and this dynamically developing state, which belongs to the group of so-called "Asian Tigers." Before his departure for home, the minister gave an interview to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's correspondent.

[Sidorov] Mr. Minister, what are the Malaysian Armed Forces today, and what in general terms are the basic guidelines of Malaysia's military policy?

[Mohamed Najib] Our Armed Forces are manned by hired voluntary recruits and comprise three branches: Ground Forces, Navy, and Air Force. They are above politics. Or rather, they are not subject to influence by any single party. Servicemen are forbidden to engage in political activity or to join parties. They can, however, vote for whichever one they like in general elections.

Since 1957 we have had no problems with our Army, as its role and functions are sufficiently well defined by the Constitution: to guarantee the country's security, defend its sovereignty, and maintain peace. Thus the Malaysian Armed Forces are founded on two basic principles—professionalism and loyalty to the government.

Our military policy is exclusively defensive by nature and is not aimed against other countries. We believe in the principle of peaceful coexistence and strive for peace and stability throughout the Asia-Pacific Region. Ultimately, we perceive security as a kind of umbrella for speedy economic development. This is how it will remain.

[Sidorov] After meetings with the Union Defense Ministry leadership, you spoke of the potential for cooperating with us in the military sphere. What did you have in mind?

[Mohamed Najib] Our policy has always been friendly and open toward all countries, including, of course, the great powers. As for today's Soviet Union, clearly there have been changes in its strategic and global concepts. Evidently, the USSR has rejected its former reliance on ideology, which hindered economic growth, and has opted for a new pragmatism. Consequently, good prospects for bilateral cooperation are opening up before us. Trade agreements laid the foundations. Now is time for cooperation in the military sphere.

[Sidorov] Do you think it possible that Malaysian business will participate in resolving the problems of the Soviet defense industry's conversion?

[Mohamed Najib] We consider that the policy of demilitarizing Soviet society, rechaneling resources, and showing greater realism in military expenditure is certainly the correct one. Although conversion is not a quick process, we fully welcome and support the current Soviet leadership's ideals in this sphere.

In a broader context, Malaysia is prepared to support your country as much as it can. Malaysia's prime minister, speaking recently in New York, declared readiness to offer the Soviet Union financial credit to the value of $35 million.

[Sidorov] You visited several military units, an Air Force base, and warships. What was your impression of Soviet servicemen and Soviet weaponry?

[Mohamed Najib] [I was impressed by] the high level of professionalism and, more especially, the discipline. The level of moral and psychological training is quite high. In my view, the combat specifications of the weapons shown to us are good.

[Sidorov] Did this make you think of the possiblity of buying a consignment of weapons?

[Mohamed Najib] In the matter of weapons purchases, we proceed from the actual combat effectiveness of specific models and the potential for material and technical backup. Our aim is not to become dependent on any single country. The diversification of supply sources is one of the basic principles of the modernization we are effecting in the Armed Forces. Nevertheless, the aim of my visit was largely political—to demonstrate our government's support for the Soviet leadership's new policy.

Thai Envoy Suggests Increased Contacts

92UF0030A Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Oct 91 Union Edition p 7

[Interview with Thai Ambassador Kasit Phirom by A. Plutnik at IZVESTIYA editorial offices; date not given: "'You Need Tens of Thousands of Foreign Specialists.' Thai Ambassador Kasit Phirom on Problems of the Soviet Economy"]

[Excerpts] The Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand Mr. Kasit Phirom visited the editorial offices. We took this opportunity to ask him a couple of questions.

[Plutnik] You have been representing your country in Moscow only seven months. Have you managed to see and understand a great deal?

[Phirom] The seven months I have been here is quite a considerable period of time if you consider what a time this has been. [passage omitted]

I must say that Moscow has always been an extremely prestigious place for Thai diplomats to be because our government has never had any doubt about the importance of relations with the Soviet Union and the role it has played and continues to play in the world. But now that such great changes are taking place in your country, to be an eyewitness is a rare piece of luck for a foreigner. It is very interesting to live and work here. I love to travel and meet people. And my family and my children share this enthusiasm.

[Plutnik] Of course, you are aware that many events you find interesting to observe—for example, the collapse of the USSR—involve numerous human dramas.

[Phirom] I am not sure the republics understand that by leaving the Union they are becoming insignificant to the world. Of course, I value the general desire for freedom and independence. But this kind of separation could lead to the situation in which, say, Laos or the African countries ended up. In my opinion, it is necessary to speak more clearly about that so that nobody will have any illusions.

[Plutnik] In our country, it has always been thought that here is where the main historical events influencing the destiny of the world take place. Now it seems that this assertion is more true than ever before. Do you not find this so?

[Phirom] One cannot understand the world without knowing your country or without being fully aware of what a significant role it plays in all the affairs of the world community. We are interested in learning more about you and expanding our exchange of information. The more so since our capital, Bangkok, is a strategic point, a transshipment base from which information is disseminated throughout the entire Asian-Pacific Ocean region. We want our people to be able to travel to your country more often and your people to our country. We have this opportunity when it comes to countries of the West. But contacts between Thailand and the Soviet Union are still limited. Only now is it finally becoming possible to expand contacts among politicians, journalists, and representatives of national diplomacy. We are interested in all-around expansion of human contacts.

As far as I can judge, this would be extremely useful for your economic development as well. It seems to me that you should be more active in dealing with the outside world. During the past 100 years, many Thais have studied abroad, including in Russia at the beginning of the 20th century. This is now producing results. We are inviting many foreign specialists to our country, and this is producing a return as well. I know that your students and graduate students go abroad to study; however, very few foreign specialists are invited to your country. I am not saying that you have none at all but, in my view, you should have many times more—thousands or tens of thousands. Their experience would be very helpful in solving your problems.

[Plutnik] We know about Thailand's high rates of development in recent years, that your economic growth is 10-12 percent. We probably have something to learn from you. There are probably things you have to offer our market and things you could buy on our market.

[Phirom] I think we can be very useful to one another in solving our economic problems. In my opinion, you should recall the example of Japan, which usually selects five or six priority areas and invests its main forces in them, achieving success every time. The Soviet Union is the world's star in the area of aircraft construction, petroleum extraction, and metallurgy.

Our country is the salesman. We sell various goods throughout the world. We have problems on the international market. The existing system of tariffs is a serious impediment for us. We hope that the revolution taking place in your country will make the Soviet Union a new, large, and important market for us. We could buy and sell a great deal.

[Plutnik] Which products interest you most?

[Phirom] We need oil, fuel, scrap metal, and, for example, old ships that are scheduled to be scrapped. Also products of metallurgy and the chemical industry and raw material for our jewelry industry. We need goods whose production requires high technology, particularly aircraft. We would also like to cooperate with the Soviet Union in the area of space technology. We are counting on having the Soviets help us launch a satellite.

Many Thai firms are interested in cooperating with Soviet organizations, for example, the country's largest companies like Siam Cement, Sigrum, and others. True, our first experience in cooperation has shown that there are many problems and issues to which solutions undoubtedly exist, and these solutions will be found, but frequently they are not very clear cut and searching for them takes a great deal of time. But, of course, we are still optimistic, because it is quite clear that cooperation promises mutual advantages.

When it comes to other possibilities of cooperation, we are very much bothered by investment problems. We could invest our capital in your economy and give you advantages in investing in ours. Thailand has always been ready to be in the position of an export-import bank. We are prepared to invest capital and attract it.

Near East & South Asia

Afghan President Supports Arms Embargo

LD0310143591 Moscow TASS in English
1046 GMT 3 Oct 91

[By correspondent Yevgeniy Menkes]

[Text] United Nations Organisation October 3 TASS—Afghan President Najibollah has supported the working out of an effective international mechanism in close cooperation with the United Nations Organisation for "controlling the termination of arms deliveries to Afghanistan," says the letter he sent to the U.N. secretary-general. The text of the letter has been circulated here as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

"The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan is positive that the termination of arms deliveries to the warring parties in Afghanistan by the United States and the Soviet Union alone will not and cannot lead to the termination of hostilities ... Peace in Afghanistan can be achieved only if the transition period includes the termination of hostilities on the basis of a ceasefire and an agreement on the stoppage of arms deliveries to all Afghan warring sides by all suppliers," the letter said.

Najibollah praised the secretary-general for his good work in promoting a political settlement in Afghanistan, and stressed the significance of the statement made by Javier Perez de Cuellar on May 21, 1991. "In the current situation your good services, along with our peacemaking efforts to find a political settlement to the conflict, and the recent Soviet-American statement taking an important step on the way to reaching this goal, inspire the Afghan people and the world community with new hope for the termination of war and the restoration of peace in our country," the letter said.

Afghan Prime Minister Views Accord, Cooperation

LD0410185991 Moscow TASS in English
1730 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By special correspondents Yuriy Tyssovskiy and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow October 3 [date as received] TASS—"The Republic of Afghanistan has supported the accord reached between the Soviet Union and the United States on a political settlement in the country. A major element of the accord is the decision to discontinue the supply of arms to all opposing sides in Afghanistan. We regard this as an effective step on the way towards a settlement of the Afghan conflict," Prime Minister Fazl Haq Khaliqyar of the Republic of Afghanistan, who has been in Moscow on a brief working visit, told TASS.

All the sides and states involved in the conflict should solidarise with Moscow's and Washington's initiative, he emphasised.

Unfortunately, "some of them have stepped up arms supplies rather than discontinue them, as a result of which the military situation in a number of areas has become complicated."

If this situation keeps on, the existing balance of forces will be upset, which will make it more difficult to achieve a political settlement, Khaliqyar believes.

Afghanistan has requested the Soviet Union and the United States to influence other countries for them to stop the supply of arms to the country. It proposed establishing, with the help of the United Nations, a control mechanism on Afghanistan's borders with the Soviet Union, Pakistan and Iran to monitor the implementation of the accords reached in Moscow, the Afghan prime minister said.

The Soviet Union, the United States, and the U.N. could jointly convince Islamabad to give up the delivery of arms to opposition groups, he said.

The Afghan prime minister highly appreciated the peace plan for Afghanistan, put forward in May this year by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, describing it as a realistic one and being in accord with Kabul's national reconciliation policy.

The implementation of the plan has already been started, Khaliqyar said. The U.N. chief's visits to Tehran and Riyadh, where he won the backing of the leadership of the those countries, were useful in this respect.

Benon Sevan, personal envoy of the U.N. secretary-general, is now holding consultations in the region to work out a formula for the convocation of a conference of representatives of Afghan conflicting sides.

Provided there are favourable conditions, such a conference could be convened as early as in one or one and a half month's time with the personal participation of Perez de Cuellar, Khaliqyar said.

The Afghan Government clearly stated that "we are prepared to enter into dialogue with our Afghan brothers, at any moment and without any preconditions, and discuss problems of a transitional period towards peace, a form of government, including presidential rule, and a future constitution of the country," the Afghan prime minister said.

Touching upon Soviet-Afghan economic cooperation, the prime minister pointed out that the delegation led by him had had talks on agreements that were earlier signed between the two countries and stressed that the two countries would continue to meet its commitments.

In order to meet the needs for fuel and prime necessities, Afghanistan seeks to use all existing possibilities, including reserves which the country possesses, to find additional supply sources outside the country, Khaliqyar said.

"One of the purposes of my visit to Moscow," he emphasised, "is to reach agreements with Moscow on forms of cooperation for 1992."

The head of the Afghan Government expressed satisfaction with the results of his meeting with Russia's Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy. The meeting was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere and was very useful, Khaliqyar said.

Speaking about the problem of Soviet prisoners-of-war in Afghanistan, Khaliqyar said it equally worries both Afghan and Soviet people.

The leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan continuously works to find Soviet POWs. Certain results have already been achieved and in future, he assured, "we shall not slacken efforts in this respect, the more so as conditions for progress in this important cause are much more promising than previously."

Silayev, Khaliqyar Discuss Afghan Settlement

OW0410154991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chairman of the special committee for day-to-day management of the Soviet economy, Ivan Silayev, has received an official Afghan delegation led by Prime Hinister Fazil Haq Khaliqyar. Progress in the political settlement of the Afghan conflict was discussed.

The Afghan Prime Minister asked the Soviet Union, alongside with the United States and the United Nations, to put pressure on Pakistan so as to end interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs from Pakistan's territory, in the first place, arms supplies. [as received]

The Afghan Prime Minister believes that the process of political settlement in his country will take a year or two, during which time Afghanistan will depend on food and fuel supplies from the USSR. He asked the Soviet side to speed up work at Afghanistan's gas fields to enable Afghanistan pay for supplies from the Soviet Union with gas.

Ivan Silayev supported efforts aimed at a peace settlement in Afghanistan, saying that it met the interests of stability in all neighbouring countries. Ivan Silayev recalled that the USSR would have to import 46 million tons of wheat on credit but confirmed that the Soviet Union would eliminate the delay in its supplies to Afghanistan by the end of the year, including the supply of 100 thousand tons of diesel fuel, 70 tons of petroleum, 50 thousand tons of aircraft fuel and 120 thousand tons of wheat.

However, Ivan Silayev said that in the future direct ties between Soviet and Afghan industries must become central to Soviet-Afghan trade and economic cooperation.

Ivan Silayev was invited to visit Afghanistan.

Talks Planned With Pakistan on Afghanistan

OW0310170391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1605 GMT 3 Oct 91

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" program; by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Blokhin and Igor Porshnev; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Serious talks will be held with Pakistan in the near future, said special envoy Nikolay Kozyrev. The U.S. and the U.N. agreed to exert pressure on Pakistan with a view to inducing it to join the peace process in Afghanistan favourable opportunities for which opened as a result of the recent Soviet-American agreement to cease arms shipments to Afghanistan, he told DP's [Diplomatic Panorama's] correspondent. This is a "serious signal" to all parties involved in the Afghan conflict designed to stop "that carnage."

N. Kozyrev confirmed that a delegation of Afghan mujaheddin is expected to arrive in Moscow in the 2nd half of October. Personal invitations were sent through the Soviet ambassador in Kabul to the leaders of 7 Afghan anti-government Sunni groupings based in the Pakistani city of Peshawar and to the leader of the Shiite Islamic Unity party based in Iran. A similar invitation was sent to Mofsemi, the leader of an Afghan Shiite grouping based in Pakistan. So far the composition of the Afghan delegation is not known, said N. Kozyrev. The invited leaders are disputing the right to head the delegation. They might decide to send their spokesmen to Moscow.

In any case the Soviet side is prepared "to discuss the entire range of problems very seriously and in detail," hoping to achieve concrete results. "We are willing to talk with everyone to expand the circle of those who are capable of exerting influence on a settlement in Afghanistan," the envoy pointed out.

When asked about the former King of Afghanistan Zahir Shah, the diplomat said that there are no contacts with him so far, but he hopes to resume them soon. Such contacts are likely to take place in Rome where the aging ex-monarch lives.

With reference to the attitude of the Afghan President Najibollah to the talks to be held with the mujaheddin N. Kozyrev said: He reacts normally in the belief that talks will be conducive to a settlement which answers to his own interests.

When asked about the prospects of the Soviet policy toward the Najibollah government N. Kozyrev said: "We recognize the Afghan Government. We have intergovernmental agreements with it and give certain aid under them." An end to arms shipments as of January 1 "doesn't mean that we break our ties with Kabul completely."

When asked about the possible impact of the upcoming official visit to Pakistan by the President of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov on a settlement in Afghanistan, N. Kozyrev said he hopes that visits by spokesmen for Central Asian republics "will play a positive role in all circumstances and be conducive to creating a general climate favorable to a settlement in Afghanistan."

IZVESTIYA: 'Tension is Growing' in Kabul

PM0310145191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Oct 91 Union Edition p 7

[By IAN correspondent Andrey Pravov: "Kabul Expecting Respite"]

[Text] Kabul—Kabul is constantly receiving information preventing it from thinking about a respite in the war. Growing numbers of armed opposition detachments are moving up to cities under government control. A particularly alarming situation is developing near Gardeyz. There are reports that tanks are being moved up to the city in addition to manpower.

Mujahidin reserves are also being moved up to Jalalabad, Ghazni, and Qalat. The situation along the Jalalabad-Kabul and Hayraton-Kabul highways is unsettled, although they are both operational today, supplying the capital with food. The Naghlu hydroelectric power station, roughly halfway to Jalalabad, supplies the city with electricity. Everything indicates that the situation there is also becoming tense; combat operations are under way roughly 15 km away from the hydroelectric power station.

The situation in Kabul is also alarming. Explosions can be heard virtually every night. The city is constantly being bombarded by rockets. Some 39 of them have gone off here in the last week. There have been fatalities and injuries. Needless to say, this figure seems small in comparison with the bombardment of Gardeyz, where between 400 and 800 shells explode every day—most of them not rockets but artillery shells that possess greater destructive force than the former. But the people of Kabul are hardly to be reassured by this arithmetic. Civilians, nothing to do with the government Armed Forces, are dying or being left maimed here almost every day.

Tension is growing in the capital, tanks can be seen more frequently on the streets, sometimes alone, sometimes whole convoys moving toward the nearby provinces of Lowgar and Vardak, where fighting is under way. Helicopters zoom over the city at low altitude.

"Believe you me," I was told by a journalist friend who describes himself as committed to the democratic path of development, "opposition extremists will hardly agree to a cease-fire. On the contrary, they will step up hostilities so as to have the best positions possible in the event of an Afghan settlement..."

The idea of a cease-fire is popular in Kabul. People realize that this, along with the Soviet-U.S. moratorium on arms shipments as of 1 January next year, is the only way to bring peace to the country.

President Najibullah said this specifically at a joint session of the chambers of the Afghan National Council. He pointed to the need to create an organ of national unity in the near future. It could, the president said, include representatives of the Afghan Government, the opposition forces from Pakistan and Iraq, Afghans living in Europe and the United States, and former King Zahir Shah.

A few days before the president's speech, deputies adopted a resolution on ways to secure peace. The document confirmed their support for the UN secretary general's plan for an Afghan settlement.

"It is wrong," one senator said, "to regard the joint Soviet-U.S. statement and the moratorium on USSR and U.S. military shipments to Afghanistan as of 1 January separately from the overall work toward peace in the country. Everything here is linked with the efforts by the world community and various Afghan circles..."

The senator said that deputies invited to a parliamentary session the UN secretary general's personal representative, Benon Sevan, who is tackling questions of an Afghan settlement. They want him to hear out their position. They think that the United Nations may be able to secure a cease-fire in the country. The Afghan Government was instructed to raise at the UN Security Council the question of putting a stop to arms shipments to Afghanistan from all sources and the withdrawal of a number of weapons systems from the country.

But everything indicates that the flood of arms into Afghanistan may not end at the beginning of next year. It is not hard to control their movement across the border with the USSR. As for the border with Pakistan, that is far more complex.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Soviet Specialists in Zaire Safe From Harm

LD2609140491 Moscow TASS in English 1326 GMT 26 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow September 26 TASS—"The threat to Soviet specialists in Zaire, which really existed during disturbances, has been eliminated," a high-ranking Soviet Foreign Ministry official said today.

The official told TASS that Soviet specialists stayed in the Soviet Embassy, except a group of pilots outside the capital. On Wednesday, nine children and eight wives of Soviet Embassy employees left for Brazzaville and are soon expected to arrive back in the Soviet Union.

Over the past three days, over 30 people were killed during the military coup, which crowned the social and economic crisis in the country.

The military left their barracks as discontent with the policy of Mobuto Sese Seko's government reached its peak, due to a deadlock at an all-national conference, which opened at the beginning of August.

According to the Soviet diplomat, the threat to Soviet specialists really existed after the Zairian military launched pogroms in the capital, also attacking foreign specialists' houses. The deployment of French and Belgian military contingents in the country to protect their citizens had a sobering effect on the Zairian military.

The French Embassy in Zaire helped evacuate Soviet citizens from Kinshasa. The U.S. and Belgian diplomatic missions were also ready to cooperate. The Soviet Foreign Ministry expressed gratitude to all those who had helped Soviet specialists.

The Soviet Embassy in Zaire continues its diplomatic activities. No Soviet citizens were injured.

Shevardnadze on Relations With South Africa

LD0310080291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1320 GMT 1 Oct 91

[By correspondent Yuriy Pichugin]

[Text] Harare, 1 Oct (TASS)— The end of the cold war has also exerted an influence on the political climate in Africa, E.A. Shevardnadze, president of the Soviet Foreign Policy Association, has stated in an interview with the influential South African magazine 'LEADERSHIP'. The granting of independence to Namibia and the partnership between the USSR and the United States in ending civil wars, inspired to a large extent by the former conflicts between East and West, can serve as confirmation of this.

Touching on prospects for the development of relations between the USSR and the Republic of South Africa [RSA], he noted there are many conditions, agreed to by the world community, to which the Soviet Union adheres. E.A. Shevardnadze said that its relations with the RSA depend on their implementation. Under current circumstances, the Soviet Union's diplomatic stance with countries where the opposition to governments takes on acute forms is to assist the settlement of the situation and the setting in motion of a dialogue. I am not very sure that the forces conducting the struggle to dismantle apartheid will gain anything by the absence of official relations between the USSR and South Africa. The practice of breaking off diplomatic relations, which was characteristic of a certain period, not only did not yield any constructive results, but also created difficulties, delaying the positive processes now planned.

My sympathies and political preferences are wholly and completely on the side of those leaders, sociopolitical currents, and circles in the RSA that see their country as one free from layers of racial discrimination, E.A. Shevardnadze pointed out. Personal meetings with the leaders of the RSA and the leaders of the African National Congress convince me that there exists reason for optimism. I sincerely wish the planned dialogue success and believe that the obstacles cropping up in its path will be overcome. Knowing the economic and intellectual potential of my country, which, despite any slumps and collisions, is enormous, as well as the possibilities of the RSA, I can see a most extensive field of cooperation in the sphere of technology and industry. We must call on the colossal resources of our sciences and cultures and bring the reserve of mutual attraction of our peoples, not lost during the years of the cold war, into action.

East Europe

Pankin Talks With Slovak Republic Leadership

LD0410221391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1959 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Beskromnyy]

[Text] Bratislava, Oct 4. (Tass)—Boris Pankin visited Bratislava today as part of his working visit to the CSFR.

He had talks with the leadership of the Slovak Republic: Frantisek Miklosko, chairman of the Slovak National Council; Jan Carnogursky, head of government; and Pavol Demes, minister for international relations. Various aspects of Soviet-Czechoslovak relations were discussed.

B. Pankin also met Alexander Dubcek, chairman of the Federal Assembly, here. The special feature of this thorough and frank conversation was its cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Speaking later at a news conference, the USSR foreign minister, while summing up the results of his visit, stressed that all the meetings and conversations held were warm, friendly, and notable for their optimistic tone. According to him, this shows the seriousness of the intentions of the two countries and their leaders to take Soviet-Czechoslovak relations to a new level following all the various stages they have gone through.

The initialling and signing of a number of documents, B. Pankin noted, may serve as evidence of the serious progress made by the two countries along the path of developing cooperation. Although there are very many problems along this path, these are not political since, as President Vaclav Havel and I concluded during our conversation, there are no outstanding unclarified issues bothering us, as was the case until quite recently, he said.

The economy is where there are real difficulties. On both sides, however, there is the will to tackle the issues existing in that sphere. Of course, we also would like direct human contact between the two countries to be much more actively pursued—in both the political and the intellectual spheres. Since acknowledging the end of our so-called brotherly friendship, which was simply hypocrisy, we turned away from each other a little as happens in such instances. Now, however, under the influence of similar democratic processes, a mutual interest and mutual attraction is growing, the head of the Soviet foreign policy department stressed.

Answering a question from a TASS correspondent about ways of implementing the agreements reached during the visit, B. Pankin reiterated that, in particular, a plan for cooperation in the fields of culture, science, and education has been signed. This is to define the framework for bilateral links, he stated, and now it needs to be given substance. It is worth devoting considerable efforts to achieve this. Another specific task facing us is an agreement on an important, and to be perfectly frank, sensitive issue—resolving financial and property issues, relating to the completion of the withdrawal of Soviet forces from the territory of the CSFR. This matter needs to be signed and then we must work with this agreement. Moreover, there is not only a matter of settling mutual accounts, but also the matter of economic cooperation; let us say, for example, the setting up of joint enterprises. Third, there is the enormous field of economic links, including what we call three-sided cooperation among Western and Eastern Europe and the USSR.

Having completed his visit to the CSFR, the USSR minister of foreign affairs left Bratislava today for his homeland.

Soviets Eager for Solution to Yugoslav Conflict

Shevardnadze Announces Initiative

AU0510193991 Vienna DER STANDARD in German 5-6 Oct 91 p 3

["EST," "AG" report: "Yugoslavia Mediator USSR"]

[Excerpt] Moscow/Vienna—In a talk with Austrian Vice Chancellor Erhard Busek, ex-Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze announced a Soviet initiative for the solution of the Yugoslavia conflict. "It will be something similar to Foreign Minister Alois Mock's 'council of wise men,'" Busek reported to DER STANDARD after his return from Moscow.

Personalities such as George Shultz and Henry Kissinger, former U.S. secretaries of state, as well as Margaret Thatcher and Valery Giscard d'Estaing, former heads of governments, will be invited to participate.

Shevardnadze, who is now again an adviser to President Gorbachev, reportedly believes that the proposal can be presented officially within the next two weeks.

Meanwhile, efforts in the USSR are currently being concentrated on the establishment of a new union. After the agreement in Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan, where 12 of the 15 republics agreed on the creation of an economic community, the political union will be discussed now, it was stated.

However, after having had a look at the economic treaty, which comprises only a few pages and is full of declarations of intent, Busek, who visited the USSR, still expects lengthy negotiations between the heads of the republics—resolute politicians, some of whom seemed to him to be "like tribal leaders." If an agreement is not reached soon, "there will be war," one of them reportedly told Busek. [passage omitted]

Ambassador Conveys Message

LD0710050891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0149 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 7 Oct (TASS)—At midnight on 7 October, on the instructions of the USSR president, the USSR ambassador in Yugoslavia was instructed by the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs to convey, without delay, the following message to the SFRY leadership and also to the Supreme Command of the Yugoslav People's Army [YPA]:

"The information coming in of increasingly widening military actions in Croatia is arousing our most serious and increasing anxiety. There are reports of an attack being prepared in the next few hours on major industrial centers and even on the city of Zagreb, the Croatian capital. Such an escalation of military action would lead to numerous casualties, great material damage and, probably, to unforeseeable consequences, and would put the crisis in Yugoslavia on a new scale more dangerous than the previous one. This would undoubtedly give rise at once to universal harsh condemnation and to an appropriate response in the world.

"Our rising concern is also motivated by the fact that there are Soviet citizens in Croatia. Concern for their safety is the unconditional responsibility of the Soviet Government.

"In this disquieting hour, the Soviet leadership appeals to the leadership of Yugolavia and the Supreme Command of the YPA, with an insistent call to display maximum responsibility and restraint so as to bring about, not an increase in military action, but cessation of that action, and unconditional and full observance of the cease-fire agreement."

Romanian Prime Minister on Future Government

LD0610104891 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Video interview with Romanian Prime Minister Theodor Stolojan by television correspondent S. Zheleznyak and unidentified TASS correspondent, date and place not given; Stolojan in vernacular with superimposed Russian translation provided by Zheleznyak; introductory graf read by presenter Irina Mishina; from the "TV Inform" newscast—recorded]

[Text] [Mishina] The political crisis is continuing in Romania. Today Theodor Stolojan, the new prime minister of the country, discussed with the leaders of political parties the composition of the future government.

[Zheleznyak] [Video shows Romanian prime minister, correspondent Zheleznyak, and unidentified TASS correspondent seated around table] Well, how are the talks on the formation of the government proceeding?

[Stolojan] That is a very delicate problem. We need a government of national accord. It is possible with the participation of all political parties in the government. At the same time, the ruling party, the National Salvation Front, insists that the results of the previous elections, in which it had over half of the votes, are taken into account when the government is formed. The opposition is categorically opposed to this, maintaining that over this time the Front has lost the majority of its supporters.

[Zheleznyak] You have said that you will continue the previous economic reforms. At the same time, it is necessary to preclude the possibility that events which occurred at the end of September will be repeated. In connection with this, what do you intend to alter in the reform itself?

[Stolojan] A more sensible and consistent way of implementing the reform must be elaborated for social stability. That is first of all the attainment of optimal co-relations between prices and wages, but in such a way that the main aim of the reform is not lost.

[TASS correspondent] Question by a TASS correspondent. The question of Bessarabia. What do you feel about the slogan—For immediate unification—which recently has been heard often in Romania?

[Stolojan] Only Moldova itself, and nobody apart from it, may decide whether it is part of Romania or not. Romania may support Moldova and may develop multilateral relations with it. But Romania does not have the right to decide for Moldova.

TASS Roundoup of Interview

LD0610075491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1540 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Dmitriy Dyakov]

[Excerpts] Bucharest, 4 Oct (TASS)—New Romanian Prime Minister Teodor Stolojan has advocated broadening and strengthening the economic ties between Romania and the Soviet Union in his interview to correspondents of TASS and Soviet Television. He has noted that despite the presence of acute problems, which worry people in both countries, one should not ignore the economic cooperation between the two states. The Soviet Union on the whole and those republics which have declared their independence, as well as Romania, need to preserve traditional trade connections. The economy should not suffer as a result of politics—to the contrary, politicians have a duty to guarantee all the bilateral obligations, to fill up the vacuum which has developed as a result of the dissolution of Comecon, said T. Stolojan. [passage omitted]

Speaking about Romania's relations with the Republic of Moldova, T. Stolojan has noted that one should not "anticipate events" in this matter. Romania should to the best of its ability offer necessary economic help to this republic, broaden its ties with it. However, "the Moldovan people, and only they, should decide their destiny," stressed the prime minister.

Hungarians Refuse Soviets Without Minimum Funds

LD0410190991 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Last night, unilaterally and without warning either the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Soviet border service, the Hungarian authorities stopped access to the country for Soviet citizens traveling to Hungary on private business. As a TASS correspondent learned from reliable sources, those lacking hard currency to ensure a minimum standard of living are not being allowed in. The minimum standard of living is being defined by the Hungarians as $15 a day. The correspondent also was told that the Hungarian authorities have returned 113 Soviet citizens traveling by rail and 95 cars.

West Europe

Scandinavia Welcomes Gorbachev Arms Proposal

Swedish Reaction

LD0610193191 Moscow TASS in English 1844 GMT 6 Oct 91

[By correspondent Dmitry Gorokhov]

[Text] Stockholm October 6 TASS—Sweden welcomes with great satisfaction the latest initiatives by the Soviet and U.S. Presidents aimed at considerable cuts in the short-range nuclear missile arsenals. Taken together, these two initiatives signify an historic step forward, Swedish Prime Minister Karl Bildt said today.

The initiatives by the two presidents, he said in an interview with the Swedish news agency, imply considerable changes in strategic arms arsenals as they envisage restrictions on the development of mobile rockets. Strategic stability will increase as a result.

Along with this, the Swedish prime minister pointed out that strategic stockpiles were still too big. "There is every ground for hope that the reduction of these stockpiles to the minimum will henceforth proceed at a greater speed."

Finnish Response

LD0610231991 Moscow TASS in English 2243 GMT 6 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vaitto Leskinen]

[Text] Helsinki October 6 TASS—The Finnish foreign minister said today he set great importance by the fact that the Soviet Union and the United States are swiftly moving forward in the field of reducing nuclear arms. He stressed it in a statement devoted to the Soviet President Mikhail Gorbacehv's disarmament initiative.

The minister noted that the announcement of considerable cuts in Soviet tactical nuclear arms strengthened international confidence that the nuclear weapons remained in trustworthy hands as major changes were sweeping the USSR.

Finland believes that the elimination of land-based nuclear tactical weapons meets the new requirements of the European security structure based on cooperation.

President Gorbachev's statement on the Soviet Union removing and storing tactical weapons from surface ships and submarines, as well as nuclear weapons from naval air forces, according to the Finnish minister, lowers military confrontation considerably in the northern region, which is of great importance to Finland.

The minister said the removal and elimination of tactical weapons in Europe would create preconditions for implementing initiatives aimed at building confidence and security in the north European region that would certainly be proposed during talks following the CSCE meeting in Helsinki.

It is of great importance for Finland, he said, that President Gorbachev announced a one-year Soviet unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing.

Finland expresses hope, the minister said, that the talks on banning nuclear testing on a global scale will make considerable headway this year. Gorbachev's proposal to hold Soviet-American talks on further cuts in strategic offensive weapons is central for international security from the point of view of Finland, the minister stressed.

EC, UK's Major Agree on Food Aid Plan

LD0610084191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1930 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] The EC plan for providing food aid to our country this winter has been agreed upon in London. On Monday this plan is to be adopted by EC foreign ministers. Aleksandr Malikov, our correspondent in London, reports:

[Malikov] It took John Major, who chairs the G-7 of the industrialized countries in the West; Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission; and Ruud Lubbers, Dutch prime minister, who heads the European Council of Ministers, two and a half hours to agree on the volume of aid to our country in the forthcoming difficult winter. Foodstuffs and medicines but not finances will go by the life bridge that the EC is going to throw over. Here is what John Major, British prime minister, said in his statement at 10 Downing Street immediately after the meeting:

[Begin Major recording] We were discussing issues of food and medical aid this winter. I do not think that the West will stay a detached observer when it has an opportunity to help, John Major stressed. We, he added, do not yet know what scale of food shortage there will be there. Therefore we have prepared an aid package that will be implemented if it is needed and in the required size. [end recording]

[Malikov] Although John Major avoided giving the exact figure of aid in this statement, the media reports that urgent food supplies by the EC will amount to about $3 billion. After Major has talks with the Japanese and the Americans, the volume of the whole package could be increased to $6 billion. But this is still approximately $3 billion less that what the Soviet side asks for. The British prime minister also made it clear that he expects a list of the foodstuffs with which the population should be provided in the first place.

It is believed that Western food and medical aid will be mostly sent directly to the republics. In order not to repeat last year's story of the mysterious disappearance of food parcels, the EC will send a group of controllers to the republics and to Moscow who will see to it that food cargos from EC storehouses are delivered to the correct addressees.

No matter what moral and physical relief these humane steps by our Western neighbors in Europe could bring, they obviously will provide but a short break. A group of British experts who recently visited Moscow and Kiev found out that the problem with our food program is not so much the wretched distribution system as an insufficient agricultural productivity. According to the British, this industry can be stimulated only by transferring land into private ownership and by prices that will encourage farmers to take goods to market. Admittedly, in giving this kind advice to us, the British forget that it is not only the ties between town and rural areas that are broken in our country but those between republics as well. And consumer goods shortages force manufacturers everywhere to keep goods and pile up rubles.

PRAVDA Views German Unity After One Year

PM0710103991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Oct 91 Single Edition p 5

[By A. Stepanov: "Lessons for the 'Ossis.' German Unification—Some Results of the Year"]

[Text] Berlin—A year passes more quickly in the life of a state than in the life of a human being, especially if it is the first year. And although the distinctive nature of events in Germany in the last 12 months gives many grounds for reflection, some of which are extremely instructive for us, I will not attempt to do the impossible by examining all aspects of the life of a society of 80 million people on the "before and after" principle, and, deducting the latter from the former, seeing whether a positive or negative result is obtained. Many things still need time to settle and assume their final form. So let us just sum up some interim results.

Are the politicians fulfilling their promises? If you work on the premise that people endowed with state power far more often say what the people want to hear from them rather than what they think, then the answer is: hardly. "No GDR citizen will be worse off in the united Germany than he was before!" How many times Germans heard these words from the harmonious duet of leading politicians of those days, Helmut Kohl and Lothar de Maiziere, defending their "high-speed" unification scenarios. Well, there is no longer any demand on the GDR's last head of government—what could you get from a private citizen? But the first chancellor of all Germans, who, unlike his colleague from the former GDR, has no shortage of political experience, could not, of course, fail to see that this promise was deceitful from the very outset. Now, even at the very highest level, the obvious is not denied: The hasty, politically triumphant reunion has engendered a mass of difficulties. The voices of those who warned of this in good time were not heeded; to be more exact, everything was done to avoid attaching importance to them.

I am thinking not so much of the economy; in spite of all the problems, the situation here is, on the whole, not so very bad. The massive aid from the "old" FRG, which laid down a multibillion "straw carpet" so that the impact of the fall would not be completely shattering, has had some effect. Yes, the economy of northeast Germany is still reminiscent of a seedbed which, just before the frosts, has been stripped of the polyethylene sheet taht had been comfortably protecting it from external misfortunes. (There were, however, plenty of internal misfortunes before, and extremely serious ones at that.) But all the same, things are far from hopeless, and experts assess the prospects according to the extent of their own natural optimism. Some say that the recession has reached its nadir and the upturn will begin any moment now; others actually see prospects of an economic boom in the new federal Laender. The president of the mighty Trust Council, Birgit Brehl, the "owner" of the 7,000 former GDR enterprises still remaining at the disposal of this organ and the target of constant criticism from the press, stated recently that she foresees a wave of investment soon. In her opinion, it is perfectly possible to modernize two-thirds of the plants and factories run by the Trust Council, and people wanting to do this will soon be found.

Undoubtedly, the social costs of such a huge privatization process are also extremely large. It is clear that they could not be anything else. In one of the most painful spheres, employment, things are still terrible in the new Laender, but the number of unemployed has apparently ceased to grow—already a considerable blessing! I deliberately leave the moral aspect in this case entirely to one side. The times are long gone when an unemployed person was such a rarity for our readers that some enterprising brother journalists actually had to bring them in from America to exhibit, for instance the New Yorker Murray. Do you remember his Moscow shows? Now anyone who is interested in the psychological state of a man deprived of work can easily find one at home right near where he lives and ask him all the questions that bother him. But let us not talk either about those whose only fault is to have belonged to the party-state, military, or political structures of a republic that today no longer exists. The poles have changed. What was an advantage has become a disadvantage—more, a "shameful past," some believe. Well, in our country too you do not have to go far to find such examples...

But how do the people who have not been shoved onto the margins of life by a merciless fate or irreversible political changes feel in the new Laender? That is to say, those who are the majority in any society. They, lacking a political temperament, entrepreneurial ambitions, or timeserving readiness to bow down before new idols are, as a rule, the workhorses who will drag any load up the hill. God forbid, I am not denying the role of the driver who holds the reins and the whip. But all the same, sometimes one should think of the poor nag.

Oh, what enthusiasm was evoked on both sides of the German-German border by the large and aphoristic banner of the reunification period: "We Are One People!" Nowadays it is being replaced in the social consciousness by a caustic anecdote about the favorite heroes of contemporary folklore: the "Wessi" (West German) and the "Ossi" (East German). The former (with enthusiasm) says: "We are one people!" The latter says (slightly sadly): "So are we. At least we were once."

And it is true that everyday life has not changed at all for the "Wessis" since 3 October. Of course, for the sake of economic aid the east had to pass round the begging bowl to everyone, not just the state treasury. But can tax hikes—moreover, not all that big—be compared with the fact that millions of "Ossis" are finding that their whole life experience of several decades is simply unwanted and has no significance?

This situation, which could notionally be called a problem of translation from German to German, is by no means as straightforward as it appears. Few "Wessis," even politicians, understand it in all its complexity and profundity. And as for the ordinary people, no way. They are actually offended: Damn it, guys, these "Ossis" now have stores no worse than ours, they have received within a year what we strove for 40 years to get! It is forgotten here that the "Ossis" were not lying around for 40 years either, but were also striving. And it is not their fault that the object of their aspirations turned out to be a mirage... Human life does not just consist of stores, however difficult to believe this may be for people who have grown up and grown old in waiting lines and have lived at last to see the day when the rulers of our "single economic space" travel round the world with a begging bowl to collect food for their fellow citizens.

There are many things to which the "Ossis" are having to become accustomed. For example, the glittering displays in the store windows by no means necessarily have anything to do with you personally. And that the elegant ring behind the bulletproof glass of the "Krist" store and the "Mercedes Cabrio" with the power top not only cost the same, but are similarly inaccessible to you—they simply exist in some kind of parallel universe.

Your previous world no longer exists. There is no state to give you a cheap apartment, no one worries about whether you can pay the rent. Well, if it has gone up fivefold, friend, that is your problem. There is no longer a kindergarten on your doorstep, and your wife must stay at home, and without her wage the family budget falls to pieces. What can you do? Life is difficult all over...

The social sphere of the GDR, which did not contain only drawbacks as both "Wessis" and "Ossis" now admit, has collapsed. Yes, the FRG is also one of the most "social" states in the world. For the former citizens of the GDR, it is all somehow unfamiliar, strange, and unusual. Like a supermarket cake in a pretty box—nice on the outside, but God knows what is on the inside.

Being catapulted into an alien environment and the transition from exaggerated collectivism to pronounced stage of individualism were bound to produce a shock whose consequences will be completely eradicated only with time. But, in my opinion, the "Ossis" have already grasped the essential point: A market society affords opportunities. This is true. It does not worry at all, however, about whether you can realize them.

Commentary Notes German Reunification Anniversary

LD0610044991 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Commentary by Anatoliy Potapov]

[Text] October 3 is the first anniversary of the unification of Germany. A tribute to the occasion from our commentator, Anatoliy Potapov.

I recall, writes Anatoliy Potapov, that a year ago the birth of a mighty European power, a political and economic giant in the center of the continent, increased the fears of many Europeans about a German threat. Such fears were also shared by many compatriots of mine. Now 12 months have passed and the developments gradually help people to give up the leftover stereotypes of the past. A democratic Germany lives and acts in Europe, having firmly committed itself to make no territorial claims. This is a Germany that has recognized the existing borders of states, a country that is consistently reducing its armed forces. Doubtlessly it was of great importance that it signed an international legal document, a treaty of goodneighborliness, partnership, and cooperation with the Soviet Union. The treaty has actually become a structure of the collective security that is being created in Europe.

I'd like to remind you, says Anatoliy Potapov, what Chancellor Kohl said in February last year. I quote: Our chance for unification will give the USSR a chance for long-term cooperation with a politically stable and economically advanced country in the center of Europe, unquote. It is obvious today that the role the USSR played in speeding up the process of the unification of Germany has not been forgotten at all by the German politicians. A single Germany today is the largest trading partner of the USSR; it is Germany that has given the biggest financial aid to the Soviet economy. It was appreciated in Moscow that at the London G-7 summit, Chancellor Kohl pressed for decisions to expand the cooperation with the USSR.

In general, the state of relations between the USSR and Germany means a fairly high level of political dialogue. The dialogue is not only between the two countries, but also between their leaders. There have been various forms of contacts between President Gorbachev and Chancellor Kohl. There have been personal meetings, visits, telephone conversations, and exchanges with letters. I find it quite logical that on the eve of the first anniversary of German unity there was another telephone conversation between the leaders of the two countries.

Thus, on the whole I am convinced that the unity of Germany is not at all the rebirth of some threat to the Europeans. United Germany is deeply integrated in the all-European process on the basis of commitments it has assumed under international legal acts. The participation in this process of such a mighty state gives the structures of a future single Europe, that are being shaped now, both reliability and and effectiveness.

Political & Social

Gorbachev Favors 'Developing Business Undertakings'

OW0410211291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1900 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev spoke in favor of developing business undertakings he gave an interview to "INTERFAX" correspondent Vyacheslav Terekhov and TASS correspondent Boris Grishenko on the conclusion of meetings with entrepreneurial farmers and representatives from business circles in the agrarian sector. "Similar meetings," said President Gorbachev, "show that not only do we value business people, but we will also support them, as they are moving our society towards a new way of life." He remarked that concluding a new Union Treaty and economic union would be impossible without stimulating business and initiatives in the agrarian sector "And I, as president of the USSR, would like to ask the State Council to look into the question of business and the development of farming. Similar meetings have become the most important part of such preparatory work."

President Gorbachev noted that his meeting with business people in various spheres of agriculture did not in any way mean that the Center or the president personally was disturbing the business of the republics.

In answer to another question, President Gorbachev said that the events in August have shown that the Novo-ogarovo process saved our move towards democracy, to a new way of life. One could even say that the putsch pointed out the necessity of continuing the process. Of course, the Novo-ogarovo process could not have many detractors, since it has revealed that a significant part of old structures and institutes were unnecessary. Supporters of the old structures showed themselves during the putsch.

"Even during the Novo-ogarovo process many of us, in particular myself and Boris Yeltsin, were subjected to the strongest criticism, both from the right and from the left. And since then some say that the process is the disintegration of the Union, and others say that it is striving to maintain an imperial union. This is surely the fate of reformers."

There was then talk on the new Union Treaty, the project which was recently sent out to the heads of the sovereign republics after a tremendous joint effort by the president of the Russian Republic Boris Yeltsin and President Gorbachev. The Soviet president noted that he provided for a change in the role of the republic on one side, and on the other, he foresees an active and dynamic Center.

Gorbachev Admits Need To Promote Agrarian Reform

OW0410153391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Mikhail Gorbachev is now conferring in Moscow with farmer representatives on ways to promote agrarian reform in the country.

Opening the meeting earlier today, Mr. Gorbachev admitted that the land reform had been grinding to a halt, with people in the rural areas obviously fearing to be left tete-a-tete with a free market.

The president said the food problem would never be solved without reforming agriculture comprehensively. The 100,000 family farms and larger agricultural associations that already existed were unable to ensure a breakthrough, Gorbachev said. He added that he no longer insisted on holding a national referendum on the private ownership of land, since it was a matter not to be decided by voting: the urban population might support the idea of private property and the rural residents reject it, or vice versa. The main thing was to ensure that the problem be decided not by the center but by the republics which would proceed from their specific living standards and economic practices, Gorbachev said.

Events in the Aftermath of the Coup Attempt

Gorbachev Manuscript

LD0110171691 Moscow TASS in English 1437 GMT 01 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondents Andrey Pershin and Vasily Titov]

[Text] Moscow October 1 TASS—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has transferred the manuscript of his book "The August Putsch: Causes and Consequences" to the Russian NOVOSTI agency, the presidential spokesman, Andrey Grachev, told a briefing at the Soviet Foreign Ministry's press centre today.

He said the book would include the article President Mikhail Gorbachev was writing while vacationing in the Crimea. The article considered a counter-perestroyka putsch as a hypothetical version of the development of the situation in the Soviet Union.

The manuscript has also been handed over to a number of foreign publishers.

Interview With Raisa

LD0610220491 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1941 GMT 6 Oct

[Interview with Raisa Gorbachev by Tatyana Komarova; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Komarova] Raisa Maksimovna, we are very grateful to you for the opportunity for this talk. Naturally, the first question is: How do you feel after what you have experienced?

[Gorbachev] If you mean my health, Tatyana Markovna, then thank you, everything is okay now, it seems. If you are asking about how I feel in general, that is more complicated. Many articles have come out about and various kinds of publications were devoted to the three days in August. But I am disturbed because certain writers are trying to turn the August tragedy into some kind of farce. When we discovered that all our telephone lines had been cut, that the TV and radio had been cut off, we realized right away what it means to be isolated: It is to be under arrest. He [Mikhail Gorbachev] has eight or 10 telephones—I do not remember exactly—and he picked them all up and they were all dead—even the commander in chief's telephone. That is the telephone that is always there, under a cover, at the dacha, at our residence, in the apartment. Nobody must touch it even to dust it, because it is under a cover and no one must lay a finger on it. He opened up this telephone, lifted the handset, and it was cut off as well. Then we realized that that was it.

[Komarova] Did you see the people who came to deliver the ultimatum to Mikhail Sergeyevich, those who were left to implement your arrest, in effect?

[Gorbachev] Yes, I saw them. Mikhail Sergeyevich met with them in his study. Already understanding the whole impact of what was going on, and expecting the worst from this meeting, we—Anatoliy, Irina, and I—stood near the door of the study throughout the meeting.

[Komarova] So you heard everything that was said?

[Gorbachev] No!

[Komarova] No?

[Gorbachev] No!

[Komarova] You did not hear?

[Gorbachev] No. We were not right by the door, we were not eavesdropping. We were standing nearby.

[Komarova] In order to be near Mikhail Sergeyevich?

[Gorbachev] Yes, so as to be there, to see how it would end up, we just did not know. We did not even have any real expectation of how this meeting would in fact end. We understood that it was bad, that something grave and terrible had started—everything that I have told you about. But, of course, it was difficult to say what specific actions this would lead to. But, expecting the very worst, the children and I came near, and we were near the study where this talk was going on.

[Komarova] Raisa Maksimovna, did you have any plan if, heaven forbid, this thing should happen? Whether to intervene, to go in or not go in?

[Gorbachev] We had no plans. We just wanted to be near, and there we were, near the study. I cannot say exactly how long the talks went on, but now I think they ended somewhere around 1800. The door opened and the visitors came out. They came out first, alone. Varennikov passed by me, by us, without paying any attention and went down the staircase. The study is on the second floor. Boldin stopped, but kept his distance, he did not approach us. Baklanov and Shenin did approach me. They said hello. Baklanov extended his hand. I did not reply to his greeting, and did not put out my hand. I asked: What have you come for? What is going on? Perhaps even: What have you come for? Do you have good news? What is going on? There was a hesitation. I heard just one phrase from Baklanov: force of circumstances. They turned and left.

After they had gone, a moment or so later, the door opened and Mikhail Sergeyevich came out of the study. He was very agitated. He had a sheet of paper in his hand. He came up to us and handed me the paper. It upsets me very much now that I cannot find this paper anywhere. But I remember it so well. It was a page from a notebook. Mikhail Sergeyevich had hurriedly jotted down in blue felt pen the names of the members of the State Committee on the State of Emergency [SCSE], as they had been named by the visitors.

What did I note? The list contained the names of neither Starodubtsev nor Tizyakov. [There was] the name Pugo—its first letter had been written as a "B" by Mikhail Sergeyevich and then corrected to a "P"—perhaps because the name Baklanov was written above it. Lukyanov was also on the list, but his name was written in lower case and next to his name was a question mark. So evidently it was not clear whether he was a member of the SCSE or not. I remember this list that Mikhail Sergeyevich handed me immediately after leaving the study. Later he began to tell us about the demands that were made of him and about his position.

[Komarova] How did you determine that your isolation was complete? Did you try to leave the area around the dacha in any way?

[Gorbachev] When we made our video recordings on the night of 19 August and we had to convey them to the free world [na volyu], as we put it, I asked the senior bodyguard Oleg Anatoliyevich: Oleg Anatoliyevich, can we convey news to the free world somehow bypassing (Generalov)? He said: Raisa Maksimova, you know we cannot, there is a complete sea blockade and we are surrounded on land in such a way that it is impossible to get out.

Now for your question: Other people also ask me these days if Mikhail Sergeyevich could have broken through with his bodyguards, with his men. You know this question was discussed. It was discussed then. I do not know how things would have developed in Faros, but the point is that when we understood that the putschists would be defeated then a decision was made not to take any action that could have provoked gunfire with possible—and you know what I am speaking of first and foremost—consequences for Mikhail Sergeyevich.

[Komarova] So this was considered and a decision was made.

[Gorbachev] Yes, we discussed it.

[Komarova] Raisa Maksimova, was any thought given to the question of how to keep the smallest members of your family safe?

[Gorbachev] The children—and here I am again going back in a vivid and real way to that situation and that atmosphere and those days—from the first moment when we understood that we had been arrested and when we learned who the plotters were, we were particularly tormented by the bitterness of betrayal. I have already talked about this. There is that kind of special condition when one has been tormented by the bitterness of betrayal by people who were working alongside Mikhail Sergeyevich and whom he trusted. Although I want to say that I did not have any particularly close friends among the plotters with whom I shared the most intimate things as has now been said in a newspaper article. That is all invention.

[Komarova] That is to say you did not have close and friendly relations with any of them?

[Gorbachev] Those are all fabrications in pursuit of goals that I cannot understand. And then this was joined by anxiety about my husband, about what was taking place in the country, and of course, by worry on account of the children and particularly the grandchildren who were with us. What could we do especially for them, you ask me. We tried to keep calm, we tried to maintain their normal daily routine. They began to ask questions—especially little (?Kseniya), she is the oldest—when the guards advised them not to go to the beach any more. And of course she was terrified when she saw people carrying machineguns in the house. We tried to isolate them in a separate room. There they read books and made drawings. By this time they turned on a television set and they watched television. But little (?Kseniya) told me later, Grandma, I was absolutely terrified when I was very tired in the evening and mommy ran into the room and said: Quick, let's get our things together, we're flying home to Moscow.

[Komarova] Many people say that the president has changed after the August events. From your point of view has he changed? Has he changed at home? Have you yourself changed?

[Gorbachev] Mikhail Sergeyevich himself says he has changed. As far as the family is concerned, you know it seems to me that on the whole everything remains as it was. But honestly, of course, I would not be open and sincere if I did not say that something new came into our mood. No doubt it did become more gloomy. You know we always say three days. That is not absolutely right: Three days of 24 hours—three days and three nights—and 73 hours—not 72, that is not right, either.

Plotters 'Pleading for Mercy'

*LD0510083191 Hamburg DPA in German
0214 GMT 5 Oct 91*

[Text] Hamburg (DPA)—The Moscow coup plotters who wanted to overthrow Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in August were adventurers and alcoholics who are now pleading for mercy. This emerges from hitherto secret video recordings of the first interrogations, excerpts of which the Hamburg news magazine DER SPIEGEL publishes in its latest edition.

Ex-Defense Minister Dimitriy Yazov regrets taking part "in this adventure as a prize fool." The marshal appeals to Gorbachev's "good-heartedness" not to put him on trial before a military court, but to retire him. He would suffer remorse for the rest of his life.

Yazov and ex-KGB chief Vladimir Kryuchkov told the investigators that they firmly believed Gorbachev would return to office. A physical liquidation of the president was never considered. Kryuchkov said: "That was not the aim; Gorbachev had to stay alive."

The former Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov even flatly denied that there had been a plot. Because of an excessive consumption of alcohol he was unaware of any plans. Pavlov said: "I was already flat out by that time."

Ratings Fall

*OW0410214591 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1900 GMT 4 Oct 91*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In the aftermath of the coup the popularity rating of Soviet President Gorbachev in St. Petersburg has fallen from 34 points to 26 at the end of September, according to a public opinion poll taken by the St. Petersburg Sociological Scientific Research Center.

The rating of RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] President Boris Yeltsin has also fallen from 86 points at the end of August to 76 at the end of September. Anatoliy Sobchak, the mayor of [St.] Petersburg has also seen his rating fall from 84 to 67 points. Ivan Silayev's rating on the other hand has risen from 53 to 58 points.

Deputy Foreign Minister on Issue of Baltic States

*OW0310165291 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1605 GMT 3 Oct 91*

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" program; by diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Blokhin, Igor Porshnev; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The issue of establishing diplomatic relations between the USSR and the Baltic countries: Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, will be officially resolved next week, said Vladimir Petrovskiy, first deputy Soviet foreign minister.

In an interview for DP [Diplomatic Panorama] he expressed confidence that relations between the USSR Foreign Ministry and its Baltic counterparts will develop "normally". He referred to Wednesday's statement at the Conference on Human Dimension in progress in Moscow in the framework of the CSCE by Estonia's deputy foreign minister Millerson. The head of Estonian diplomacy highly assessed the Soviet foreign ministry's contribution to the endeavors to restore the statehood of Baltic republics lost as a result of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact.

In the near future talks will begin on settling all disputes in Moscow's relations with Riga, Tallin and Vilnius, V. Petrovskiy pointed out. The heads of the relevant Soviet delegations: Aleksandr Yakovlev, Anatoliy Sobchak and Eduard Shevardnadze, are engaged in preparations for the upcoming dialogue.

The problem of ethnic minorities

According to V. Petrovskiy, to ensure the observance of human rights, including solution to the problem of ethnic minorities, is a top-priority task bearing on the interests of all participants in the CSCE. Since the Baltic states have joined this process, all these commitments apply to them too. The Baltic states are taking a very active and constructive part in the Moscow Conference on Human Dimension convened in the framework of the CSCE, first deputy Soviet foreign minister stressed.

8 Republics Meet To Prepare for Supreme Soviet

LD0410205491 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2000 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Because President Gorbachev has rescheduled the opening of the new parliament for 21 October, plenipotentiaries of Russia, Belarus, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzia, Tajikstan, and Turkmenia have met in Moscow to clear the ground for the opening session.

The Ukraine and Armenia attended the meeting in a consultative role, while Georgia sat in as an observer. The postponement is expected to give the republics breathing space in which to decide whether or not to send deputies to the new parliament.

LDP Chairman To 'Demand Compensation for Slander'

OW0410190891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chairman of the Liberal-Democratic Party [LDP], Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, intends to demand compensation for slander against him, contained in a book on perestroyka in the Soviet Union, which was published by the most powerful Finnish publishing house, "Gumerus." The publishers invited Zhirinovskiy to Helsinki for the presentation of the book, written by the journalist Hossia, who lived and worked in the USSR for a long time. At a press conference in Helsinki, Zhirinovskiy spoke of his dissatisfaction with the author's hints that he was a product of the KGB and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. "Now that the archives of the KGB and Communist Party are in democrats' hands," stated Zhirinovskiy, "let them find even one scrap of paper which would imply that I worked with such organizations."

At the press conference Zhirinovskiy also stated that by supporting separatists in the USSR, Finland lost much, since in earlier times Finland made a large profit off of trade with a united Soviet Union, and now the size of two-way trade has dropped sharply. "As a result of recognizing the Baltic governments and of reviewing the results of the First and Second World Wars, the Helsinki process has ended, and a new redivision of the world and borders has begun," Vladimir Zhirinovskiy noted.

TASS Carries Press Review for 5 October

LD0510083291 Moscow TASS in English 0725 GMT 5 Oct 91

["Soviet Press Review"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow October 5 TASS—"What is happening in Russia?" is the headline of the selection of reports frontpaged by NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. The reports say the Russian Council of Ministers disavowed Russian Federation Economics Minister Yevgeniy Saburov's signature under the Alma-Ata agreement between 13 republics to set up a single economic space, that acting chairman of the Russian parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov accused officials in the apparatus of the Russian President Gennadiy Burbulis and Sergey Shakhray of incompetence and that Burbulis and Shakhray went to the south to meet Boris Yeltsin who maintains silence. The newspaper believes "the political crisis in Russia, which was predicted long ago and shaped most clearly immediately following the collapse of the August coup, is coming to a head."

ROSSIISKAYA GAZETA's political news analyst Yevgeniy Panov devoted his commentary to the same theme. He believes "the drama of the Russian authorities is their failure to live up to the tasks that ought and could be accomplished after the putsch. The winners appeared to be impotent in making use of the fruits of the victory. None of the revolution's goals has actually been achieved."

In view of mass media reports that Estonia has some territorial claims to Russia, ROSSIISKAYA GAZETA provided an opportunity to comment on these reports to Leivi Shera, press-attache of the Estonian Supreme Soviet Presidium. Shera emphasised his country "was not going to take any unilateral actions and intended to solve all of these complex problems only through talks between the sides concerned." At the same time, he noted: "The world is changing and hence the map of the world too." The day of the USSR Constitution is observed on October 7. KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA's commentator Leonid Nikitinsky writes this day is marked in conditions when either the USSR Constitution or the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics itself are in existence. "Under current circumstances, one should not rush to adopt new constitutions of the former constituent republics. However, their absence should not generate absolute arbitrariness."

Newspapers publish alarming reports by news agencies and their own correspondents from the country's flashpoints: Georgia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

It is reported that Georgian National Guard units supporting the opposition decided not to lay down arms and not to leave the republic's capital as they initially planned to do. KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA thinks Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia was clearly ahead of the events "when he congratulated the Georgian people on the victory over the putsch." People in the Tengiz Kitovani camp feel confidently.

PRAVDA writes the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region escalated. More than 20 people have already died there after the joint communique on a ceasefire was signed in Zheleznovodsk. The newspaper is stunned by the indifferent behaviour of the mediation sides, specifically Russia and Kazakhstan, which also signed the Zheleznovodsk documents.

In conjunction with Teachers's Day observed on October 6, several newspapers printed materials dealing with the teachers' deplorable status in the country. ROSSIISKAYA GAZETA writes the teacher is on the verge of poverty in the country. Telegrams are coming in from dozens of Russia's regions saying teachers in the cities of Kemerovo, Sverdlovsk, Barnaul and Taganrog are planning to go on strike.

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA informs its readers "Russia's independent trade unions warn that people's patience is wearing thin. Laws on labour remuneration, its protection and labour disputes are urgently needed."

The same newspaper features a publication in support of Soviet sovereignty over Sakhalin. It criticises Russian parliament acting chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov for his attacks on the supporters of keeping the Kuril Islands under Russia's jurisdiction.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA discusses the same issue. It carries an open letter by a large group of scientists to Russian President Boris Yeltsin asking him to use his influence as president "to leave the Kuril Islands under Russia's juridiction for good."

"After the collapse of the August putsch, investigators got an opportunity to find the true culprits not only of the January events in Lithuania, but also the inspirers of OMON (special police force) raids and the killers of custom guards in Mjadininkai," Lithuanian Republic Procurator General G. Norkunas said in an interview with the newspaper TRUD. He emphasised only the executors were in Lithuania, while "the masterminds of these crimes sat in Moscow offices."

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA contends the investigation group of the Baku prosecutor's office and the investigation commission of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet, probing the January events in Azerbaijan, simultaneously uncovered several facts showing that pogroms against Armenians in Baku from January 13 to 16, 1990 were organised and staged by KGB officers.

Under the title "The Academy of the Atomic Fleet" KRASNAYA ZVEZDA features a report from a secret navy centre in a Russian province where specialists for nuclear-powered submarines are trained.

French Prime Minister Edith Cresson received in Paris the editor-in-chief of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA and gave her first interview to the representative of the Soviet press. She said France favoured undelayed aid to the Soviet Union. Cresson voiced optimism over the country's future and emphasised the Russian miracle in the economy similar to the German, Italian and French miracle after the Second World War was possible.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA features an interview with Dalai Lama XIV, who made a stop-over in the USSR on his way from India to Mongolia.

Economic

ISVESTIYA Reports Economic Community Treaty

PM0410235791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Oct 91 Union Edition p 4

["Treaty on the Economic Community"—IZVESTIYA headline]

[Text] Independent states which were also former components [subyekty] of the USSR, irrespective of their current status,

expressing the will of their peoples for political and economic sovereignty enshrined in acts adopted by the states' supreme legislative organs in protection of citizens' interests,

wishing to establish mutually advantageous economic relations between the states,

striving for radical economic transformations and bearing in mind the common nature of the problems facing the states in connection with the tasks of emerging from the crisis, moving to a market economy, and entering the world economy,

and cognizant of the benefit of economic integration and a common economic space, and of the expediency of preserving economic, trade, scientific, technical, and other relations, conclude this Treaty on the Economic Community.

Chapter I. Basic Principles

Article 1. The economic community is set up by independent states on the basis of voluntary participation and the equality of all its members' rights with a view to forming a unified market and pursuing a coordinated economic policy as an indispensable condition for overcoming the crisis.

Article 2. Membership of the economic community will entail adoption by the independent states of all the commitments and acquisition of all the rights envisaged by this treaty.

The member states of the economic community shall proceed on the basis of their mutual economic responsibility for the fulfillment of this treaty and shall refrain from any steps prejudicial to the execution of this treaty as a whole or certain of its provisions.

Article 3. Mutual relations between the economic community and states that have seceded from the USSR and have not joined the economic community shall be based on the generally recognized principles and norms of international law. Questions of common interest to the economic community and requiring settlement shall be decided by special agreement between the Economic Community and the state in question, such agreement to be concluded no more than three months from the time this treaty comes into force.

Article 4. A member state of the economic community is entitled to withdraw from the community. It is obliged to give the other economic community members no less than 12 months' notice of its intention. Withdrawal from the economic community shall be conditional upon the settlement of relations with respect to all membership commitments in accordance with a special agreement.

Article 5. Economic community members states shall agree to harmonize [sblizheniye] economic legislation and to implement a coordinated policy in the following spheres:

entrepreneurial activity;

the goods and services market;

transport, power generation, and information;

the monetary and banking system;

finance, taxes, and prices;

the capital and securities market;

the labor market;

customs regulations and tariffs;

foreign economic relations and currency policy;

state scientific, technical, investment, ecological, humanitarian, and other programs (including the elimination of the consequences of natural disasters and catastrophes) of common interest to the economic community;

and standardization, patents, metrology, statistics, and accounting.

Article 6. Economic community member states shall pledge not to allow unilateral, uncoordinated actions to divide up property deemed to be jointly owned.

The composition of this joint property shall be determined by a special agreement.

Article 7. In order to implement a coordinated economic policy and general measures to emerge from the crisis, the economic community member states shall set up community institutions vested with the appropriate powers.

Article 8. This treaty shall be concluded for a three-year term. Not later than 12 months before this term expires the economic community member states shall decide whether to extend or alter this treaty or to conclude a new one.

Chapter II. Entrepreneurial Activity

Article 9. Economic community member states recognize that the basis for boosting the economy is private ownership, freedom of enterprise, and competition. They shall create conditions conducive to business activity and shall legislatively restrict state interference in enterprises' economic activity.

Article 10. Economic community member states shall pledge to ensure on their territories an identical legal regime covering the implementation of economic activity by physical and legal persons either from their state or from any other economic community member state.

Article 11. Economic community member states shall pledge to implement a coordinated antimonopoly policy and to promote the development of competition within the framework of their united market.

In the transitional period the economic community member states shall implement coordinated actions to regulate prices of output produced by monopoly producers.

Chapter III. Movements of Goods and Services, Prices

Article 12. Movements of goods and services on the territory of economic community member states shall be unrestricted and not subject to customs duty.

Imports of goods from third states shall be subject to customs duty in accordance with the rates set by the economic community unified foreign customs tariff.

Article 13. Striving to shape a unified market, the economic community member states recognize the impermissibility of restricting movements of goods and services, and pledge to remove such restrictions within an agreed period.

Article 14. Economic community member states shall pursue an agreed policy of moving to free pricing. Economic community member states shall apply agreed prices to a jointly defined list of products.

Chapter IV. The Monetary and Banking System

Article 15. Economic community member states recognize that agreed actions in the sphere of monetary and credit policy are of priority importance in order to emerge from the crisis and control inflation.

Article 16. Economic community member states recognize the need to maintain the ruble as the common currency of the unified monetary system and agree to make efforts to strengthen it. Economic community member states shall be permitted to introduce national currencies provided they fulfill conditions which rule out any possibility of the economic community's monetary system being damaged. These conditions shall be determined by special agreement between the state in question and the economic community.

Article 17. In order to elaborate and implement an effective monetary and credit policy to restrain price growth and support the ruble, economic community member states shall institute, on the principles of a reserve system, a banking union including the economic community member states' central (national state) banks, and shall set up an interstate emissions bank under the banking union.

Article 18. The legal status of the banking union's administrative organs and procedure for their organization shall be determined by special agreement.

The banking union's activity shall be regulated by its statutes, which shall be ratified by the economic community member states' supreme legislative organs.

Prior to the adoption of the banking union statutes, administration of the banking system shall be exercised by the USSR Gosbank [State Bank] board, which will include additional representatives from the central (national state) banks of the economic community member states.

Article 19. The banking union shall be charged with the following functions:

determining unified approaches to the implementation of monetary and credit policy and establishing quantitative parameters (quotas) on the operations of banking union members' central (national state) banks;

determining interest rates for loans provided by banking union members' central (national state) banks to commercial banks;

determining reserve requirements for commercial banks;

organizing interbank transactions;

regulating the ruble rate in relation to other currencies;

controlling that part of the gold and foreign currency reserves transferred to the banking union by the economic community member states;

organizing the supply of cash in circulation, including the sale of bank notes and coins;

and regulating the general rules covering commercial bank activity.

The banking union shall set quotas for the amount of credit which economic community member states' central (national state) banks can provide to budget systems in 1992.

Directives issued by the banking union's administrative organs shall be binding on all banking union banks.

Article 20. In setting up the banking union, the economic community member states consider it necessary to determine in a special agreement the procedure for transferring to them and to states not members of the economic community the corresponding proportion of the former USSR banking system's statutory, reserve, and other funds, and its share of joint-stock capital in limited liability companies, deposits, and the gold, diamond, and foreign exchange reserves.

Article 21. Economic community member states shall set up a supreme banking inspectorate on the basis of equal representation, charging it with:

monitoring the observance of the banking union and interstate emissions bank statutes;

hearing appeals from economic community members about infringements of their interests;

and annulling and suspending banking union decisions that contravene its statutes.

The banking union and interstate emissions bank are obliged to submit to the supreme banking inspectorate on demand all necessary documents and materials.

supreme banking inspectorate decisions adopted within the limits of its jurisdiction shall be binding on the banking union and the interstate emissions bank.

Chapter V. Finance and Taxes

Article 22. Economic community member states shall pursue a coordinated budgetary and fiscal policy, which shall envisage:

the agreed restriction of consolidated state budget deficits taking account of nonbudgetary funds, and the setting of growth limits for the economic community member states' internal debt. In the event of a state no longer being able to place its securities or of the set limits being exceeded by one or several economic community member states, the excess amount shall be deemed to constitute a debt repayable to the other members under agreed rules;

the unification of the principles of taxation and an agreed policy in the sphere of taxes affecting the interests of other economic community member states, with a simultaneous reorientation toward indirect taxation principles.

Article 23. Economic community member states consider it necessary to conclude an agreement on dividing up and legally reordering USSR state internal debt as of 1 January 1992 among the economic community member states and nonmember states, and on the procedure for servicing that debt in the future. Some of the debt could be made the general responsibility of the economic community member states. At the same time, an agreement shall be concluded on distributing centralized credit resources among the states' banks. State internal debt shall be determined by taking account of state budget indebtedness to the banks on the basis of price differentials for agricultural products as at 1 January 1991.

Economic community member states shall reaffirm the continuity of commitments made on the USSR's behalf to holders of deposits at the USSR Bank for Labor Savings and Credit to the Population [Sberbank], USSR state securities, USSR Sberbank certificates, and insurance policies (bonds) issued by the USSR Main Administration for State Insurance.

Article 24. Economic community member states shall create an economic community budget to finance joint expenditure, including expenditure on the upkeep of economic community institutions.

The following special funds shall be set up within the framework of the economic community budget:

a fund to service that part of USSR state internal debt devolving to the joint responsibility of the economic community member states;

a fund to service the USSR state foreign debt and the economic community foreign debt (where denominated in rubles);

a fund for emergency situations and the elimination of the consequences of natural disasters and catastrophes, including Chernobyl, and the Aral and Caspian Seas;

a targeted programs fund;

and a financial reserve.

The economic community budget's income shall be drawn from its membership dues, determined as a set proportion of produced national income (GNP) in current prices. The size of these funds and the procedure governing their payment shall be determined by annual agreement among the economic community members.

The economic community budget cannot go into deficit.

Article 25. Economic community member states can establish nonbudgetary funds to finance targeted programs. Economic community nonbudgetary funds cannot go into deficit.

Article 26. Economic community member states recognize the need to implement targeted programs to promote the development of certain regions and provide social support for their population. To this end they shall establish a corresponding fund by diverting an agreed proportion of the national income (GNP) in current prices produced on their territory. This fund's activity shall be regulated by a special agreement and by statutes.

Article 27. In order to ensure continuity in Union budget expenditure, economic community member states shall conclude among themselves before 31 December 1991 an agreement to redistribute Union budget income and expenditure in order to ensure that, as of 1 January 1992, all expenditure takes place within the framework of state and interstate budgetary systems.

Article 28. Economic community member states agree that the regulation of the movement of monies and other financial resources, and the issuance and circulation of securities within the economic community framework shall be implemented in accordance with a special agreement on the basis of the need to ensure the free movement of capital.

Chapter VI. The Labor Market and Social Guarantees

Article 29. Economic community member states shall strive to implement the principle of the free movement of labor on economic community member states' territory and shall consistently create the conditions therefor, including the establishment of a housing market.

Article 30. Economic community member states shall not permit discrimination against citizens on ethnic or other grounds as regards job offers, pay, or the provision of other working conditions and social guarantees.

Economic community member states shall recognize workers' educational standards and qualifications obtained from other economic community member states and shall require no additional confirmation of same for acceptance to a job or course of study, unless such condition be binding on all applicants.

Economic community member states agree that their citizens shall not require visas for travel within community territory.

Article 31. Economic community member states shall conclude special agreements to regulate migration processes and mutual commitments in the sphere of social welfare and pension provision for citizens of economic community member states.

Chapter VII. Foreign Economic Relations and Currency Policy

Article 32. Economic community member states agree to coordinate foreign economic activity and currency policy.

Article 33. The economic community, as legal successor to all USSR foreign economic commitments, and of other countries' commitments to the USSR, guarantees their fulfillment. Each economic community member state reaffirms upon joining the community its participation in the joint fulfillment of these commitments.

Economic community members shall establish a bank to be the legal successor of the USSR Bank for Foreign Economic Activity [Vneshekonombank] and, through it, shall conduct transactions relating to the repayment of foreign debt by the economic community and the receipt of debts from other countries.

The economic community undertakes to regulate all relations regarding foreign debts with each USSR component which has not become an economic community member.

Economic community members consider it necessary to conclude a special agreement to determine as of an agreed date the proportion of total USSR foreign debt payments payable by each component of the former USSR, and the amount due to each component in the shape of other countries' debts to the USSR.

These proportions shall be used in calculations pertaining to the repayment of debts by states not wishing to join the treaty or withdrawing from the economic community. These states shall conduct transactions with the economic community until their total debt is cleared.

In the event that a state not wishing to join the treaty, withdrawing from the economic community, or becoming a community member reaches agreement with all creditors to reschedule [pereoformleniye] its proportion of the total foreign debt, this proportion of the debt shall be repayable by that state independently.

Article 34. The economic community shall obtain new foreign loans on the basis of an agreed decision among all economic community member states.

An economic community member state is entitled to obtain foreign loans independently, with all the ensuing consequences as regards servicing and repayment of such loans.

The granting by the economic community or some of its members of loans or other economic aid to foreign states shall be governed by the same procedure.

Article 35. Economic community member states, using a single monetary unit, agree that the community's immediate goal is internal ruble convertibility. They pledge to implement the necessary preparatory measures based on a coordinated program for the transition to internal ruble convertibility.

Article 36. Prior to the transition to internal ruble convertibility, Economic Community member states recognize the need to establish a unified procedure for accumulating foreign exchange revenue in order to service foreign debt.

Article 37. Economic community member states shall independently regulate foreign economic activity, quota setting, and the licensing of foreign economic operations within agreed quotas.

Article 38. Economic community member states agree to retain a unified customs territory for the economic community and shall implement a coordinated customs policy vis-a-vis third countries.

Questions connected with the procedure for setting and levying customs duties and export and import taxes for the relevant budgets shall be decided by special agreement.

Article 39. Economic community member states agree to common membership of the IMF, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, GATT, and other international economic organizations, and reaffirm the validity of the corresponding applications made by the USSR.

Economic community member states can also be individual members of these organizations.

Article 40. Economic community member states shall pursue independent policies in the sphere of foreign investment and, if necessary, coordinate those policies. Economic community member states shall also coordinate their actions in the sphere of technical, consultative, and other kinds of aid from foreign states and international organizations.

Chapter VIII. Legal Regulation of Economic Activity

Article 41. In the economic community member states, the legislative acts of these states have supremacy. Physical and legal persons engaging in economic activity on the territory of these states shall be guided by their legislation.

Article 42. During the term of the treaty the economic community member states shall agree to harmonize the norms of their economic legislation with a view to establishing more favorable and equal conditions for enterprise and free trade throughout the economic community. They shall pledge to ensure that their legislation corresponds to the norms of international law and economic community acts.

Article 43. In the event of this treaty, agreements [appended] to it, or normative acts adopted by economic community institutions within the limits of their jurisdiction establishing different rules from those contained in economic community member states' legislation, priority shall be deemed to reside in the economic community treaty, agreements, and normative acts.

Article 44. During the period required for economic community legislation to regulate all aspects of economic activity, acts of USSR legislation shall be applied to unregulated issues under an agreed procedure, provided such legislation does not contravene this treaty or other agreements.

Chapter IX. Economic Community Institutions

Article 45. The economic community's institutions shall consist of:

a council of the heads of government of the economic community member states;

an interstate economic committee;

the banking union;

and an economic community court of arbitration [arbitrazh].

Decisions adopted by these institutions within the limits of their jurisdiction are binding for economic community member states.

Economic community institutions shall be staffed along strictly professional lines by representatives from the economic community member states on a parity basis.

Article 46. The economic community's supreme coordinating organ shall be the council of the heads of government of the economic community member states. This council shall act to elaborate and implement agreed economic policy and to monitor its implementation.

The council of the heads of government of the economic community member states is entitled to veto the decisions of the interstate economic committee. The veto shall require a specific [kvalifitsirovannyy] majority vote.

Article 47. The interstate economic committee is the economic community's executive organ. Within the limits of its jurisdiction it shall ensure implementation of the economic community member states' economic policy as defined by this treaty and the agreements and decisions of the council of the heads of government of the economic community states.

The interstate economic committee shall monitor the implementation of the provisions of this treaty and the agreements adopted on the basis of it.

The interrepublic [as published] economic committee shall publish an annual economic report.

Article 48. The interstate economic committee shall be headed by its chairman.

The interstate economic committee chairman shall be nominated by the council of the heads of government of the economic community member states and relieved of his duties by a conference of the heads of the economic community member states by a specific majority vote.

Article 49. The interstate economic committee shall establish relevant commissions comprising representatives from the economic community member states.

The commission leaders shall be ratified by the council of the heads of government upon submission by the chairman of the interstate economic committee from among the members of the said committee.

Regular conferences of ministers from the economic community member states shall be held to resolve questions of collaboration and the elaboration of a common policy on specific spheres of economic management.

Article 50. At the decision of the council of the heads of government of the economic community states the interstate economic committee may set up departments or other organs.

The procedure for establishing these organs, reorganizing them, or abolishing them, as well as the powers of their leaders, and the procedure for appointing and removing them shall be laid down by the interstate economic committee.

Article 51. The interstate economic committee, with the consent of the economic community heads of government, can establish standard time, weights and measures, standardization and certification, and statistical services, unified hydrometeorological and metrological services, a patents service, and other services.

Article 52. The economic community court of arbitration shall be established in order to resolve disputes and apply economic sanctions with a view to ensuring the uniform implementation of this treaty throughout the territory of the economic community member states.

Article 53. Economic community member states agree to transform sectorial USSR administrative organs into new organizational structures on an agreed basis.

Chapter X. Agreements

Article 54. Economic relations among economic community member states shall be regulated on the basis of this treaty and the agreements [appended] to it.

Article 55. Within no more than three months of the signing of this treaty and for the duration of same, agreements shall be concluded on the following issues:

on the status and powers of economic community institutions;

on the establishment of the banking union, including its statutes;

on the economic community's Vneshekonombank;

on the regulation of ownership rights in the economic community;

on the harmonization of economic community member states' legislation regulating economic activity;

on the regulation of migration processes;

on the establishment of a fund for regional development and social support for the population, including its statutes;

on the creation of nonbudgetary funds to finance economic community targeted programs and the provisions on them;

on the settlement of states' reciprocal commitments upon withdrawal from the economic community;

on the movement of capital and securities;

on antimonopoly policy within the framework of the economic community member states' unified market;

on reciprocal commitments in the sphere of pension provision and social welfare;

on the patents service;

on the procedure and conditions governing the introduction of national currencies by economic community member states;

on the procedure for moving to the general principles of international economic relations with states which were members of the USSR and are not members of the economic community;

on the division and legal reordering of the USSR state internal debt and the procedure for servicing it in the future;

on the principles and mechanism for servicing the economic community's foreign debt;

and on the procedure for resolving property and other disputes.

Article 56. Agreements shall be concluded for the duration of one year or another agreed term on the following issues:

on the economic community budget;

on an agreed policy in the sphere of taxes affecting the interests of economic community member states;

on customs policy and customs tariffs;

on the maximum level for economic community member states' consolidated budget deficits;

on prices and volumes of goods shipments under reciprocal (interstate) contracts and for general requirements;

on the setting of limits on the growth of the economic community member states' internal debt and the procedure for settling debt obligations;

and on cooperation in the event of emergency situations.

Chapter XI. Associate Membership of the Economic Community

Article 57. With the consent of the economic community members a state assuming only some of the obligations defined by this treaty may be granted the status of associate member of the economic community.

Article 58. The conditions for states to join the economic community as associate members shall be determined by members of the economic community.

Article 59. Mutual relations between the economic community and associate members shall be regulated in each individual instance by a special agreement envisaging, in particular, the resolution of issues relating to customs regulations, interstate deliveries and prices, and participation in shaping the economic community budget and nonbudgetary funds.

Chapter XII. Final Provisions

Article 60. Economic community member states shall be obliged to resolve questions relating to the violation of this treaty before the economic community court of arbitration in accordance with the powers vested in it, as well as through negotiation.

Economic community member states that commit blatant violations of their obligations under the treaty or supplementary agreements to it in specific spheres may be subject to the repercussions stipulated in the agreements, up to and including expulsion from the economic community.

Article 61. The economic community shall welcome membership applications from states recognizing this treaty.

Article 62. By decision of the council of heads of government of the economic community states certain states may be granted observer status.

Article 63. The treaty and the special agreements shall be subject to ratification by the economic community member states in accordance with their constitutions and shall come into force one month from the date of the ratification documents being lodged with the depositary state. Additional agreements shall not be subject to ratification and shall come into force from the moment of their signing.

Article 64. The treaty shall come into force after having been signed and ratified by no fewer than three states wishing to join the economic community.

Gorbachev Expresses Support for Entrepreneurship

LD0510030691 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0200 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev advocates developing entrepreneurship. He gave an interview to INTERFAX and TASS correspondents at the end of a meeting with entrepreneurs, farmers, and representatives of agrarian business circles. Such meetings, Gorbachev said, show that we all value and will support businessmen, who are moving our society to new forms of life. He commented that concluding a new Union treaty and economic union are impossible without stimulation of entrepreneurship and initiative in the agrarian sector. As president of the USSR, he said he would like to submit the question of entrepreneurship and development of private farming for the consideration of the State Council. Such meetings are a major part of any such preparatory process. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev pointed out that his meetings with businessmen in various spheres of the national economy are by no means evidence of interference by the center and the president in the affairs of the republics.

Law on Industrial Designs

914A1055A

[Text] For this law published in the 12 August 1991 IZVESTIYA, see the JPRS Report Soviet Union: Economic Affairs, JPRS-UEA-91-035, dated 9 September 1991, pp. 1-7.

Agricultural

Gorbachev for Agrarian Reform, Government Support

LD0510023391 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2300 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] President Gorbachev, at the end of a meeting in Moscow with rural entrepreneurs, has called for private farming and for the reform of state and collective farms. He said nothing short of the agrarian reform would help the country's further advance. On private ownership of the land, the president said it was up to rural residents themselves to resolve the question.

Mr. Gorbachev called for government support to an updated economy of the countryside and for a greater role to the agrarian reform committee.

On other issues, Mr. Gorbachev spoke of the economic agreement being almost ready for signing and of work being in progress over the blueprint of a Union of sovereign states. He said the future of the Union hinged on the consensus by sovereign states and their drive for further democratic reform.

Mr. Gorbachev said the country's realities prompted the need for an active and dynamic center.

Grain Harvest Drops 25 Percent in Average Yield

OW0310050491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2254 GMT 2 Oct 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Harvest is over at 9/10 of all area under grain crops, says the Soviet Ministry for Agriculture and Foodstuffs. The grain harvest is 151.7 mn. [million] tons [as received], as compared with last year's 211.5 mn. The average yield was 1.65 ton/ha [hectare] as of September 30, a 25% fall from the 1990 level.

The state bought 35.4 mn. tons of grain, less than half of what it had planned to buy. (It should be reminded that 96% of the Soviet population buy bread and cereals through the state distribution system). By this time last year, the state had bought 59.2 mn. tons of grain (and 67.8 mn. tons in the whole of 199O).

The state bought 15% less of sunflower seeds than by the same date last year, though harvesting is proceeding at a faster rate. The average yield dropped from 1.69 tons/ha in 1990 to 1.35 tons/ha this year.

Potatoes have been harvested on 4/5 of the area under potatoes. The average yield is 9.9 tons/ha, or 0.8 ton less than last year. The yield of sugar beets also dropped from 24.7 tons/ha last year to 19.6 tons/ha this year.

The garlic harvest is 25% of last year's (garlic is a Soviet export crop), first of all, because crops sown to garlic have shrunk. Garlic production is unlikely to be restored to its 1990 level in 1992.

The cotton harvest is 2,674,000 tons, or 36% of the planned figure, as against 4,166,000 tons at the same date last year. Last week the harvesting of cotton picked up its tempo, but unstable weather in Central Asia is a hindrance.

Goskomstat Reports Agricultural Harvest Situation

LD0510190291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0900 GMT 3 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Sergey Telepnev]

[Text] Moscow, 3 Oct (TASS)—According to USSR State Committee for Statistics [Goskomstat] figures of 30 September, grains and pulses have been harvested from 93.4 million hectares (92 percent of sown area) and threshed from 92.1 million hectares (90 percent). A total of 151.7 million tonnes of grain have been threshed in the country as a whole. Last year, the figure was 211.5 million tonnes by this date.

Some 35.4 million tonnes of grain have been purchased for state stocks, or 46 percent of the state order.

Potatoes have been lifted from 1,432,000 hectares, which comes to 82 percent of the total area planted.

Vegetables have been harvested from 487,000 hectares, some 50,000 hectares less than last year.

Some 2,674,000 tonnes of cotton (35.8 percent of plan) have been procured.

Sugar beet has been harvested from 1,483,000 hectares (48 percent of the sown area).

Pulling of long-fiber flax is virtually complete. According to the latest figures, flax perished on 40,000 hectares. Some 194,000 tonnes of flax fibre have been procured, which amounts to 61 percent of the state order.

Although the greater part of the European territory of the USSR, Western Siberia, and the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan have had warm and dry weather for the past week, the pace of harvesting is slower than last year. Particular anxiety is still aroused by the progress of procurement of breadgrain for state reserves. These reserves have fallen by almost 24 million tonnes in comparison with last year. The state grain order has been met by 14 oblasts. Fodder stocks are not being replenished. Many fattening centers and poultry farms in the country are on the brink of grinding to a halt because of a lack of mixed fodder.

Although the sugar beet harvest is proceeding rapidly and 29 million tonnes of the sweet roots have been amassed, there are 7 million tonnes of beet lying in the fields. There is no transport to bring it in, and it will not be long before the bad weather comes. There has been rain on the greater part of the European part of the country. This means that, once again, losing some much-needed produce cannot be avoided.

It would seem that nothing stood in the way of the farmers speeding up the vegetable harvest last week. You couldn't have ordered better weather, and town residents turned out to help the country dwellers. However, the pace of harvesting vegetables fell in Novgorod, Smolensk, Tomsk, Orenburg, Chita, and Irkutsk Oblasts. Moreover, these are the very places soon to be hit by frost.

Garlic procurement is down 75 percent this year. This is linked to a reduction in area and poor organization of procurement. It means that there is scarcely any garlic in the state trade network, and its market price has reached 35-40 rubles per kilo.

The process of providing petroleum products to the agricultural sector is not improving. The short supplies of the last eight months have not been made up and have, in fact, increased. It is the usual picture as regards agricultural machinery at a standstill at the height of harvesting work.

Potato Acreage, Crop Yield Down

PM0310100191 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 26 Sep 91 p 1

[Unattributed report under the "Incidentally" rubric and the general heading "Potato-91"]

[Text] This year, potatoes occupy an area of 1.8 million hectares. This is half a million hectares less than in 1990. According to figures from the USSR State Committee for Statistics, 800,000 hectares had been harvested as of 16 September. The present yield is 11 quintals a hectares less than last year.

Roundup of Agricultural Developments

LD0610012391

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR from 29 September to 5 October. Source, and GMT time of broadcast are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

29-30 September

No fileworthy items monitored.

1 October

The new sugarbeet harvest has yielded 500,000 tonnes of sugar in the Ukraine. All 190 factories in the republic are processing sugar beet. The output is being dispatched immediately to customers. Bad weather somewhat delayed the processing season. Poltava Oblast Agro-Industrial Committee told a Mayak correspondent that Poltava Oblast, the republic's biggest sugar producer, will fully meet the state order. (Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian, 1300)

The last combines are leaving the potato fields of the Mari non-black soil zone as the harvest comes to an end. From this harvest, 17,000 tonnes of potatoes have been dispatched by the republic on order to other regions of the country. (Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian, 1300)

2-4 October

No fileworthy items monitored.

5 October

The agricultural workers of Uzbekistan began to harvest their third million tonne of cotton. This is a encouraging fact, considering this year's bad weather conditions. Because of the unprecedented floods and duststorms, crops on practically every second hectare had to be replanted. Considering the complicated conditions for harvesting works, the government of the republic has substantially raised the wages of the cotton pickers as well as mechanics. The enterprises strive to manage the harvesting works by themselves without the help from the city dwellers. No cotton shortages are expected in the country this year. (Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian, 0800)

Scientific

Engineer Denies Radiation Leak at Power Station

LD0510032791 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT 4 Oct 91

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] The argument in the regions around the Zaporozhiye nuclear electric power station and the many rumors about radioactive waste from the station are arousing concern and questions about whether it is possible to go outside and whether there is any threat to health.

[Begin recording] [Reporter G. Klimov] There actually was an incident at the Zaporozhiye nuclear electric power station. It was not connected with radioactive waste, but with a seepage of polluted water at a power block which is currently under planned repair. Specialists are investigating the incident.

What is the situation at the station today?

[Chief Engineer T. G. Plokhiy] The situation is in order at the station, if you mean the radiation situation. Everything is in order. There is no danger either for the population or for the staff or for the environment.

[Klimov] Two of the five units are currently operating at the Zaporozhiye nuclear electric power station. The remainder are under planned repair. Preparations are under way for a difficult winter. The construction of a sixth power unit at the Zaporozhiye nuclear electric power station has been frozen. [end recording]

Ministry Ends Kostroma Nuclear Station Financing

LD0510202191 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Minatomenergo has decided to stop financing the construction of the Kostroma nuclear power station. The many years of dialogue between the leadership of the oblast and the Union ministry appear to have ended. The decision was undoubtedly influenced by the active stand taken by the public and by Russian people's deputies.

Silayev Advocates Economic Community 'NASA'

OW0310135691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] More effective space exploration by the USSR requires the formation of a common coordinating center resembling NASA. The statement was made by the acting Soviet premier Ivan Silayev at Baykonyr cosmodrome. He attended the Wednesday [2 October] launching of a spaceship carrying a crew consisting of a Russian, a Kazakh and an Austrian. The American shuttle makes regular manned flights, while the Soviet Buran has made just one unmanned flight. This, Silayev said, is one of the results of the dispersal of forces involved in space studies in this country.

"This is why our new economic community should have its own NASA", Silayev said. He described as a major mistake the division of the air and space industries, which are one and the same industry elsewhere in the world. "In my new capacity I want to carry out the project which I had in mind back when I was the Minister of the Soviet Aircraft Industry—to combine the two in an aerospace industry", Silayev stressed.

Gorbachev, Yeltsin Send Greetings to Space Crew

LD0410173791 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 4 TASS—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Friday [5 October] sent greetings to the Soviet-Austrian crew of the Soviet orbiting station Mir.

There are currently five cosmonauts working on board the station: Anatoliy Artsebarskiy, Sergey Krikalev, Aleksandr Volkov, Toktar Aubakirov and Franz Viehboeck.

"You have the honour to perform the first Soviet-Austrian space flight. I congratulate you on the successful docking and the beginning of joint work on board the orbiting station Mir," Gorbachev said.

The Soviet Union and Austria have long-standing friendly ties. Joint work of Soviet and Austrian cosmonauts in orbit starts a new stage of mutually beneficial cooperation between both countries, the message says.

Gorbachev greeted Aubakirov as the first representative of Kazakhstan to perform a space flight.

Yeltsin expressed hope the flight will help advance scientific and technological progress and promote friendship and mutual understanding between the peoples of Russia, Kazakhstan and Austria.

The Soviet and Russian leaders wished the cosmonauts fruitful work and safe return to earth.

Military

Grachev Says Armed Forces To Be Halved by 1994

AU0110161291 Paris AFP in English 1558 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, Oct 1 (AFP) - The Soviet Armed Forces will cut their strength by half by 1994, First Deputy

Defense Minister Pavel Grachev announced here Tuesday [1 October], quoted by the independent INTERFAX news agency.

Its present strength of four million soldiers will be reduced by between two and 2.5 million men, he said.

Grachev made his statement during a meeting of Russian parliamentary commissions dealing with security and the social protection of soldiers, the agency said.

A spokesman for the Defense Ministry Valeriy Miasnyakov refused to confirm or deny Grachev's comments to AFP, but said the present strength of the Soviet army, to his knowledge, was 3.4 million soldiers.

Defense Ministry Collegium Discusses Baltic Troops

LD0310124391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1153 GMT 3 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, 3 Oct (TASS)—The heads of the state delegations of the USSR for talks with the Latvian Republic, Aleksandr Yakovlev, and with the Lithuanian Republic, Eduard Shevardnadze, today took part in a session of the collegium of the USSR Ministry of Defense. It examined problems connected with the presence of troops and forces of the fleet on the territories of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia.

White Sea Nuclear Submarine Accident Detailed

LD0510160791 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1244 GMT 5 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Anvfriyev]

[Text] Arkhangelsk, 5 Oct (TASS)—New details of the recent nuclear submarine accident in the White Sea came to light during a meeting of the Severodvinsk city soviet.

According to the Arkhangelsk oblast newspaper PRAVDA SEVERA, specialists from the enterprise building nuclear-powered vessels and representatives of medical and ecological services were among the participants in the meeting. They heard Admiral Pakhomov's account of what happened in the central part of the White Sea, where the vessel had arrived for training maneuvers.

"Practice missile firing was under way...," the newspaper reports, citing the admiral's account. "The vessel was at launch depth. During the prelaunch preparation, a defect was discovered and the launch did not take place. Captain I. Grishko made the decision to surface. When the vessel reached the surface, the captain saw a fireball on the deck. The missile had begun burning and spontaneously leaving the launch tube. After that, it fell onto the conning tower. To put the fire out, the vessel started diving".

Later, the vessel went to Severodvinsk. There were no casualties, but some damage had been done. According to the admiral, "the solid fuel that ended up in the sea does not dissolve in water."

Baltic Affairs

Baltic Council Adopts Security Resolution 5 Oct

LD0610123891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2135 GMT 5 Oct 91

[By correspondent Kazis Ustsila]

[Text] Vilnius, 5 Oct (TASS)—At a session of the Baltic Council today, the heads of the parliaments of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia signed a resolution "on a general system of security for the Baltic states." This document states that Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, because of their concern for seeing peace and stability in the region on the eastern shores of the Baltic Sea, consider it expedient to take an active part in the structures of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation, and also to coordinate the system of security for the Baltic states. Therefore, the Council of Baltic states has resolved to form a joint group to work out an outline for the relevant regional cooperation.

The Baltic Council has instructed the ministers of foreign affairs for Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia to form a permanent working group for the systematic exchange of information, the preparation of concerted foreign policy aims, and the holding of Baltic Council meetings.

Vytautas Landsbergis, Anatoliy Gorbunovs, and Arnold Ruutel have signed a Baltic Council statement which welcomes the new initiative by U.S. President George Bush on the matter of reducing nuclear weapons, and have called upon all states that possess nuclear weapons to support this initiative. The document confirms the determination of the Baltic states not to allow nuclear weapons on their territories.

Each parliament is to present fifteen deputies for the meeting of delegations from the supreme soviets of the Baltic states that is due to take place in Tallinn 8-9 November. The Baltic Council resolution adopted on this issue calls for the meeting of representatives from these delegations, which is to take place in the Estonian capital on 26 October, is to approve the agenda and time limit for the meeting, which is to work out the principles for further interparliamentary cooperation under conditions of independence, and to establish guarantees for the security of the Baltic states.

Views Troop Withdrawal, Other Issues

LD0610161891 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0700 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Draft documents were submitted for discussion at the Baltic Council among which the decision concerning some points in the common stance of the Baltic states on the negotiations with the Soviet Union is probably the most important.

The draft submitted by the Lithuanian delegation reads in part: The presence of the Soviet Armed Forces in the Baltic states is not a subject of negotiation with the Soviet Union. The withdrawal of the troops is the basis for mutual trust with the Baltic states on the one side and the Soviet Union on the other. It is also a basis for creating the conditions for both sides to enjoy equal rights until interstate political relations are regulated through negotiations. The Soviet Union must honestly admit that the annexation of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia in 1940 was illegal and compensate for the damage inflicted on these republics and their citizens during the period of annexation and occupation by the Soviet Union.

This and other documents—such as a statement concerning the absence of Soviet troops in the Baltic states; setting up a common Baltic interparliamentary assembly; and cooperation in the sphere of foreign policy—were discussed and signed. A brief news conference also took place.

Estonia

Government To Adopt Military Draft in November

OW0410185491 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1630 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Under a resolution adopted by the Estonian Government Friday, October 4, a draft will start in November, 1991, in Estonia. Men born between 1963 and 1973 who have not served in the Soviet Army or completed alternative social work established in the republic last year are subject to the draft. Special commissions of the Estonian Home Defense and Border Control Department will be set up in cities and provinces of republic to carry out the draft by October 15.

The draft does not apply to students of secondary and the professional schools and colleges, men raising two and more children and some other categories of the male population.

Until the Estonian Supreme Council passes a law on the military service, the draftees will face a maximum service term of 15-month which also will depend on the arm of the service.

According to Andres Oovel, Director General of the Estonian Home Defense and Border Control Department, during the first stage 2,500 men will be drafted. Of them 1,000 will serve on the border, 300 in the rescue teams and 1,200 in the police. Mr. Oovel also said that the biggest problem for the military service now is the shortage of officers.

On October 10, 60 former Soviet military servicemen willing to become "Estonian officers" will start a three-week training course.

New Free Market Political Party Forming

OW0410141691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An address by the initiative group of the new Estonian party Koonderakond (United Party) has been published today, Oct 4, in the newspaper Rahva Haal.

The address was signed by the republic's Finance Minister Rein Miller, the Minister of Material Resources Aleksandr Sikkal, the Minister of Engergy and Industry Jaak Tamm, the Minister Without Portfolio Endel Lippmaa, and others.

The new party sets itself as its principal goals the protection of entrepreneurs, speedy integration of Estonian economy into the world economic system, and doing away with the state property monopoly.

Latvia

Godmanis Assesses Alma-Ata Talks, Prospects

LD0610083191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1600 GMT 3 Oct 91

[By correspondent Galina Kuchina]

[Text] Riga, 3 Oct (TASS)—Latvia maintains its intention to conclude bilateral agreements with the republics, although a treaty between the Baltic states [pribaltika] and the economic community for which an outline was sketched in Alma-Ata has not been ruled out in the future. This is the conclusion voiced by Latvia's representatives upon their return from the meeting in Kazakhstan.

"Our main task," stressed Latvian Prime Minister Ivars Godmanis in a conversation with journalists today, "is to serve as a bridge between East and West." He believes that the future members of the community will have to take a number of fundamental steps toward the market system, introduce unregulated pricing policies, and carry out financial and agrarian reform and privatizations. Such boldness may result in the heads of some government representatives rolling, noted Ivars Godmanis, but without such measures the path to the market system will be impassable.

TASS Previews Parliament Citizenship Debate

LD0710013191 Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 6 Oct 91

[By correspondent Valeriy Zaytsev]

[Text] Riga October 6 TASS—It is necessary for us to see as many permanent residents of Latvia as possible become citizens of the republic," Dainis Ivans, first deputy chairman of the Latvian Supreme Soviet, said today. He was speaking at a meeting devoted to the problem of citizenship organised by Latvia's Russian Culture Society.

After Latvia restored its state independence, the question of citizenship became especially important. Five bills on citizenship are being considered by the republic's parliament. They envisage the restoration of citizenship rights for people who had those rights on June 17, 1940 and their descendants.

As regards other residents, a number of preconditions are made, including the residential qualification and the level of proficiency in the state language.

The main debate is expected to start in the parliament on Tuesday, when the entire package of citizenship bills will be on the agenda.

The Congress of Citizens favours citizenship only for those who had the right before the Second World War and their descendants. All the others should be repatriated, the congress insists.

The Popular Front Council has called for collecting signatures to demand the convocation of a referendum of Latvia's citizens.

Addressing today's meeting, Latvian People's Deputy Vladlen Dozortsev said "we are being left on our own". Any undemocratic decision on the issue of citizenship can lead to social conflicts, he warned. "this is a painful issue", he stressed.

The forthcoming discussion of the issue in parliament will reveal if the deputies are well aware of the total complexity of the problem.

Nationalist Leader Criticizes Citizenship Law

LD0510085691 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 0900 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] The Committee of Latvia has condemned the resolution by the People's Front faction of the Supreme Council to adopt a law on citizenship without waiting for new parliamentary elections. Speaking this evening on Latvian television, committee leader Maris Grinblats (?added) that this package of citizenship laws is called the "zero option" (?of increased activity).

Therefore, at today's Committee of Latvia meeting it was decided that at 1200 on (?12) October it will continue its protest action in Domas Square under the slogan "Latvia for the Latvians! The Land of Latvia for its Rightful Owners." Calling for the action, it pointed out that the action of the Supreme Council and the People's Front faction in defining the legal status of residents and arranging property rights contradicts the interests of Latvia's citizens.

The summons also states that in fact the recognition of independence [word indistinct] covers up the genocide of the Latvian nation.

The Committee of Latvia also adopted a statement on Latvian state gold. The statement points out that the Latvian gold (?stored) abroad is inviolably (?lawful until) the elections, and that the only legal owner of this gold at present are the citizens of the Republic of Latvia as a whole. (?It should also be added) that the Committee of Latvia does not claim any rights to dispose of this gold.

Lithuania

Landsbergis Assesses Baltic Council Meeting

LD0610210991 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Statement by Lithuanian Supreme Council Chairman Vytautaus Landsbergis at a news conference after a session of the Baltic Council in Vilnius on 5 October—recorded]

[Excerpts] As you can see, we have been working rather hard here and we have adopted several documents. [passage omitted] The most important question is the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the Baltic states. Certain demands have been stated in this document: the Baltic Council insistently proposes to the Soviet Union to start the withdrawal of Soviet troops without delay from Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. [passage omitted] There must not be foreign troops in Vilnius, Riga, and Tallinn; especially in such numbers and with such power. They drive in our streets without asking anyone—nobody anywhere in the world could imagine a situation like this. All the troops, of course, must be withdrawn within the shortest period of time possible, which should be coordinated with the Baltic states. [passage omitted]

We also included two points in the appeal to the Soviet (?Government) asking them to solve without delay the social questions of servicemen and their families who are moving to the Soviet Union, because these issues cause concern to the servicemen, especially the officers. There are many rumors going around, and we would like to see them less worried concerning deadlines and future departures. We call upon the Western states to grant financial help to the Soviet Union to solve the social problems of the servicemen. As you may know, the main problem is housing for the officers. [passage omitted] Well, we do not owe anything and we have never attacked the Soviet Union—there is nothing we should pay for. We appeal to the Western states. Perhaps there is a common interest that these armed forces are being withdrawn further east, and perhaps this appeal may be supported. [passage omitted]

We have decided that a session of the delegations of the Supreme Councils should be held in Tallinn on 8 and 9 November which would adopt a decision on how a common interparliamentary body should be set up and what its name should be. This body will be useful in cooperation with other regional interparliamentary structures, first of all with the Nordic Council. [passage omitted]

Responds to Shaposhnikov Telegram

LD0710085891 Moscow TASS in English 0838 GMT 7 Oct 91

[By correspondent Kazis Ustsila]

[Text] Vilnius October 7 TASS—"The issues listed in your telegram are not the ones that should be discussed by Lithuania and the Soviet Union," says Lithuanian Parliament leader Vytautas Landsbergis's reply to the telegram of Soviet Defence Minister Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov.

In the telegram Shaposhnikov informed Lithuanian leaders about the Defence Ministry's readiness to receive a delegation from the Lithuanian Republic in Moscow on October 8, the Lithuanian Television reported. He thinks the meeting should discuss the Soviet Army's status in Lithuania, the principles of forming the 1992 defence budget, the regular draft and what recruits should do their military service.

"The Lithuanian Republic's key demand is that all Soviet Armed Forces be withdrawn from its territory before the end of this year," Landsbergis's reply says. He believes contacts between the Lithuanian Department for the Defence of the Territory and the USSR Defence Ministry are necessary to solve the technical aspect of this issue.

In his telegram, Landsbergis asked Shaposhnikov to see to it that Lithuanian youths return from the Soviet Army without conflicts and that all of the Lithuanian youths return home before the end of October.

Landsbergis also informed Shaposhnikov that he received a statement "by officers-putschists" of the military unit in the Lithuanian capital, containing "ultimatum demands and the threat of retaliatory actions if their demands are ignored," a report by the Lithuanian Television says.

The military demand that issues pertaining to the withdrawal of the Soviet Army be solved only after the social problems faced by the families of the servicemen who are moved out of Lithuania are settled.

Supreme Soviet Official Views Political Situation

PY0710013691 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Oct 91 p 7

[Interview with Bronislavas Kuzmitskas, Lithuanian Supreme Soviet deputy chairman, by correspondent Antonio Cabal during a stopover in Sao Paulo—date not given]

[Text] [Cabral] How is Lithuania going to survive the possible increase in the price of oil that it obtains from Russia?

[Kuzmitskas] Russian President Boris Yeltsin has warned us that there may be a price increase, but it will affect all the republics, even the RSFSR. The reason for this increase is the drop in oil production and the lack of modern equipment to exploit oil. The truth is that the Russians are not so keen about raising the oil price because Lithuania could, in turn, reduce agricultural production or cut the supply of agricultural products, thus worsening the shortage in the USSR. We are looking into the possibility of rationalizing oil consumption and seeking other suppliers, such as Norway. Nevertheless, the most serious problem is the privatization of state enterprises. A solution of Lithuania's economic problem is subject to the privatization process and to free elections. If this does not happen and the state continues to control production, the consequences could be hunger and misery.

[Cabral] What does Lithuania expect from the Western countries?

[Kuzmitskas] We need the West's support, which we are already receiving. The Scandinavian countries, Germany, and other countries have already earmarked resources for Lithuania. The current problem is how to use that money. We are determined to use these foreign resources rationally. Lithuania has problems of a structural nature, especially in the administrative field. Our country needs help in organizing its structures, and it is already receiving assistance at an administrative and financial level. Our banking system has to be completely reorganized. Belgium and Switzerland are looking into this. What Lithuania needs is time. Western businessmen have been acting cautiously, awaiting the consolidation of our independence. They have now started to make investments.

[Cabral] Putschism still hovers in the air in Moscow. Are Lithuanians still running a risk?

[Kuzmitskas] If the conservatives or reactionaries take power, they will not solve the economic problem. This, in a certain way, prevents the conservatives from reacting. Lithuania has achieved independence, but there are still people in Lithuania who would support a return to the old system. A plebiscite carried out early this year indicated that about 7 percent of the people support a return to the past. They are the members of the old leading elite. After the proclamation of independence last year, the PC [Communist Party] split into two factions: Lithuanian and Soviet. Six months ago, all the leaders of the Soviet PC simply disappeared. We do not know where they are. Their reaction was one of fear, but it could also be a form of provocation.

[Cabral] And the 80,000 Soviet soldiers who are still in Lithuania?

[Kuzmitskas] This is a hot, worrisome issue. These soldiers must get out. We know that this could take a long time. Nevertheless, if these soldiers were deployed in Lithuania in just a few days, they could also get out in the same manner. Housing these soldiers when they return is a problem for Russia, not Lithuania. We cannot expel these troops. What we can do is demand forcefully.

[Cabral] How is Lithuania facing the problem of minorities?

[Kuzmitskas] Moscow is using the argument of minorities to stir up the minorities in Lithuania. A high-ranking Soviet leader visited Vilnius in an effort to convince the Polish minority not to accept Lithuanian laws and to encourage the proclamation of an autonomous republic. Polish people in Lithuania have newspapers, schools, and even television time to express themselves. I talked to Russian workers and they told me that they are afraid of being discriminated against. Moscow is using the problem of minorities in an effort to destabilize Lithuanian independence.

[Cabral] What do you expect from relations with Brazil?

[Kuzmitskas] I met with Congress leaders and with Vice President Itamar Franco. A general agreement on initiating an exchange process has been reached. The details must be resolved by the experts.

Polish Minority Protest Government Decisions

LD0510084891 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1500 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] The Baltic News Agency reports: The Board of the Association of Lithuanian Poles has published a statement in Moscow describing the decisions of the Lithuanian Government as anti-Polish repressions. According to the Agency, the document stresses that this is testified by the decisions of the Lithuanian Parliament to suspend the democratically elected local government in the rayons populated by the Poles, searches in the apartments of Supreme Council deputies, the institution of criminal proceedings, and threats to close down Polish newspapers.

The authors of the statement protest against the actions of the Lithuanian Government which are increasing tension, and demand that the confrontation is discontinued. It is stressed that mutual understanding should be achieved through [words indistinct].

Deputy Assesses Foreign Policy Discussions

LD0610070691

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network at 0700 GMT on 3 October carries a five-minute report on a discussion on the issues cncerning Lithuanian foreign policy that took place in the parliament on 2 October.

Justas Paleckis, deputy chairman of the standing parliamentary Foreign Affairs Commission, talks about his point of view on yesterday's discussion. Justas Paleckis was head of the independent Lithuanian Communist Party ideology department. Now he is one of the leaders of the Lithuanian Democratic Labor Party.

Justas Paleckis said that "essentially, the discussion aimed to determine the principles and strategy of foreign policy. This was the first time a discussion was held on this subject in the last 18 months, since we restored independence on 11 of March. It must also be noted that the last free discussion on foreign policy at a free parliament of Lithuania took place in the autumn of 1926, which is 65 years ago. But this is history. Now the essence of the discussion is how to choose the path that will lead us as quickly as possible to a stable democratic state and to welfare, probably through Europe."

He says that the main task set for the participants of the discussion was achieved. Strategy is emerging. He says that "almost everybody supports the idea that it is necessary to try to become members of the EEC as soon as possible."

Answering a question on contradicting arguments and points of view on the issue among various factions of the parliament, Justas Paleckis says: "I did not notice that the points of view of factions essentially differed," although some deputies voiced various proposals and ideas that did not reflect the point of view of the majority. Justas Paleckis calls the debates constructive and useful.

Cilinskas Reassures USSR Servicemen on Rights

LD0610095391 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1000 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Lithuanian Government Secretary Kestutis Cilinskas had a meeting in a small northern town with servicemen of the Vilnius Garrison. They asked for this meeting in connection with the demand expressed by the leadership of the Republic of Lithuania that the Soviet Union's occupation Army be withdrawn from Lithuania as soon as possible.

They wanted to hear the opinion of official representatives of the Republic of Lithuania on how their interests would be considered.

I had an impression, said Kestutis Cilinskas, that the officers, the majority of whom do not read the Lithuanian press, have not been only poorly informed about our laws, about the their rights, and the rights of their families as residents of Lithuania, but also intentionally disinformed, because they asked whether repressions would be taken against them. It was explained to them that the completely natural wish of the Lithuanian people is not to have an occupation army in their state, and that this corresponds with their interests, too, because the prolonged conflict and psychological tension is harmful to both sides.

There were reproaches that they are called occupants. They had to be reminded that the Soviet Union really occupied Lithuania, but we understand that each serviceman sent to serve here as a human being did not think about this occupation. This applies to the Army as a whole, but not to individuals.

The discussion was benevolent, said Kestutis Cilinskas. We were understood well. The officers understood that the Lithuanian state does not regard the Soviet Army as being subordinate to it and cannot take care of it as its own. On the other hand, they complained that the Soviet Union, too, did not take much care of them.

Housing, social, and other problems which are of interest to them were elucidated during the meeting and, I think, this reassured them. The servicemen gave assurances that there certainly would be no aggresive actions on their part.

French Bank Governor on Returning Gold

LD0510163191 Moscow TASS in English 0924 GMT 5 Oct 91

[By correpondent Kazis Ustsila]

[Text] Vilnius October 5 TASS—Bank of France Governor Jacques Larosiere said the goal of his visit to the capital of the Lithuanian republic was to "discuss some aspects of the regaining by Lithuania of its rights to gold."

Bank of France coffers are reported to hold about two tonnes of this precious metal belonging to the Lithuanian republic since 1932-36. France was the first among the states, in which Lithuania's gold reserves are kept, to return without delay the gold estimated at some 25 million U.S. dollars.

Lithuanian Bank Governor Vilius Baldisius said the gold of the Lithuanian Republic, which is kept in France, will continue to be coffered in the Bank of France. He believes this gold should maintain the stability of the Lithuanian monetary unit, the lita. Preparations for putting it into circulation are afoot in the republic.

Larosiere holds consultations on developing bank business in Lithuania. His Lithuanian colleague Baldisius said the Bank of France "is ready to give backing to the young and re-established Lithuanian bank."

Larosiere was received by Lithuanian parliament leader Vytautas Landsbergis on Friday afternoon.

Landsbergis Meets Japan's Suzuki on Cooperation

LD0610183691 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1000 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Text] Japanese Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Muneo Suzuki has arrived in Vilnius. This is the first visit to Lithuania—and later to Latvia and Estonia—by this high ranking Japanese official after Japan recognized the sovereignty of these countries. Suzuki will attend the ceremony in which diplomatic relations between Japan and the three Baltic states will be established, which should take place in Vilnius on 7 October. Mineo Suzuki was received by Lithuanian Supreme Council Chairman Vytautas Landsbergis. Forms of diplomatic contact and possibilities for further cooperation were discussed.

Supreme Soviet

Secretary Discusses Debate on Draft Constitution

LD0410221291 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Report on interview with Oleg Rumyantsev, secretary of the Constitution Committee of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet, by unidentified correspondent; place and date not given; from the "TV Inform" newscast—live or recorded]

[Text] The Russian parliament is planning to discuss, in the first reading this week, a draft constitution for the Russian Federation. A working group and the Constitution Commission have been polishing this long awaited document all year. It is almost ready. The only thing left to do is to insert amendments and remarks by deputies at separate sessions of the chambers.

But even now, at this concluding working stage, feelings are still running high. Today's session unfortunately did not end without ultimatums, demonstrative actions and door slamming.

[Correspondent] From the course of your session, it is possible to understand that the constitution is emerging in very complicated circumstances.

[Rumyantsev] We regret the attempts to ruin today's discussion and the adoption of the new constitution. Deputies, participants in the Russian communists' group, ask why this constitution does not take account of an alternative draft submitted by the Russian communists. Although this party has been suspended, its deputies' activities are still going on.

Autonomies' leaders are unhappy about the fact that the constitution follows the principles of a federative state. The Russian Federation should be a genuine federation. The constitution should counter chaos and disintegration and disarray in the Russian Federation. I think this Constitution Commission is a model for the parliament. We have been fighting here for a year. There is group which is working, but the majority has no desire to work. I think that such a model reminds us that we should think through whether the congress itself is capable of any actions and whether this structure of 1,000 deputies is capable of any actions. They will make a worse spectacle of themselves at the forthcoming congress while discussing the draft constitution than they did at the session of our commission.

All this seriously requires our cohesion regarding the preparation of the new constitution and its discussion. We should resolve this issue so we can elect a new energetic parliament in 1992. It should have a constitution committee which will implement constitutional reform based on the new constitution.

Khasbulatov Thrashes Shakhray, Burbulis at Briefing

LD0310144991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1245 GMT 3 Oct 91

[By TASS parliamentary correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 3 Oct (TASS)—"There are no differences between Boris Yeltsin and the parliament of Russia," said Ruslan Khasbulatov, acting chairman of the Russian Socialist Federated Soviet Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet, at a news conference in the [Moscow] "White House" on 3 October. He noted that this problem, which had been thought up by journalists, has given rise to some constitutional and legal imperfection in certain of the decrees of the RSFSR president. Ruslan Khasbulatov laid the blame for these ill-conceived acts on Sergey Shakhray, RSFSR state adviser on legal issues, and Gennadiy Burbulis, secretary of state.

In his opinion, they must be made to take responsibility for the inadequacies, and even resign, thus protecting the RSFSR president from attacks. Having been sharply critical of the public statements of Sergey Shakhray and Gennadiy Burbulis, he said that their "position is unbecoming of a state figure," that they "are not mature enough for that" and he advised journalists to "focus on those people who bear serious responsibility."

"Yeltsin, Gorbachev, and I bear responsibility for the preservation of the Union," Ruslan Khasbulatov stressed. He noted that all autonomous republics "will exist only as a part of Russia" and he called the forms of attaining sovereignty which they are defending as "unthinkable for the state." In passing he expressed concern over the "Balkanization" of Russia and especially of the North Caucasus.

Answering a question about the fate of the Kurils and his special opinion of Valentin Fedorov, chairman of the Sakhalin Oblast Executive Committee, Ruslan Khasbulatov noted that Fedorov was "a mediocre professor in my department and became a bad governor. He should be recalled to the Plekhanov Institute".

The acting chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet admitted that there is a crisis in Russia's Government in connection with Ivan Silayev's resignation from the post of premier. "We are waiting for the RSFSR president to name a new head of the cabinet." In his opinion many members of the government should be replaced for they do not take any decisions, and "whether I like it or not, I have to manage ministers, though it is unlawful." As to the treaty on an economic community, which was initialled in Alma-Ata, Ruslan Khasbulatov stated: "The RSFSR Supreme Soviet will support any initiative aimed at unifying the republics."

'Verbal Duel' Opens Session

LD0410155991 Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow October 4 TASS—Today's morning session of the Russian parliament began with a verbal duel between acting Chairman of the Russian parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov and Russian State Adviser Sergey Shakhray.

"You described Chairman of the Sakhalin Regional Council Valentin Fyodorov as a good-for-nothing professor, Deputy Head of the Economic Management Committee Grigory Yavlinskiy as a naughty boy and myself and Russian Secretary of State Burbulis as kids. We believe it is high time to take measures for protecting the honour and dignity of legislators," Shakhray said.

Khasbulatov replied: "Whole groups of legislators wonder: How many posts can you hold at a time?"

People's deputies raised the question of Khasbulatov's improper conduct at the October 3 press conference, at which he mentioned some statesmen in a scornful way.

Khasbulatov wished to refuse to chair the session and offered the place to Shakhray, but the legislators did not support him. The proposal not to telecast the argument was not supported either.

It is worth recalling that Shakhray, Khasbulatov and Baburin are rivals in the struggle for the post of chairman of the Russian parliament.

Parliament Discusses Election Procedures

LD0410224691 Moscow TASS in English 2213 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By TASS parliamentary correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow October 4 TASS—Since the Russian parliament, at the previous joint meetings of the chambers, failed to pick up tempo, members of the Russian Supreme Soviet decided to make up for the time lost and put at least five serious questions on the agenda.

But before opening the debates, deputies were again involved in a conflict between individuals. Russian Federation State Counsellor Sergey Shakhray accused the acting chairman of the Supreme Council of "feeling larger than life in a political sense". This remark was prompted by Ruslan Khasbulatov's disparaging words regarding Shakhray, Gennadiy Burbulis, Grigoriy Yavlinskiy....

Khasbulatov rejected repproaches of "unethical conduct". He tried to give up his presidency of the meeting to Shakhray, but deputies have not supported this intention. The debate on a draft law on the election of the administration's head finally began.

As is known, after the failure of the state coup, the Russian president appointed heads of the administration in a number of territories and regions. But parliament found this to be undemocratic and insisted on their election by the people.

The draft law submitted to the Russian Supreme Council was not flawless. This is shown by the number of amendments to it—54 amendments in the second reading.

It took almost the whole working day to discuss these amendments and adopt a resolution of the Russian Supreme Council on the procedure of putting into operation the Russian Federation law "On the Election of the Administration's Head".

The evening meeting was presided over by member of the Russian Federation Supreme Council Svetlana Goryacheva, not Khasbulatov. The debate centred on the provisions of the draft law as to what results of the elections enable to regard elections as valid and candidate to the post of the administration's chief as elected. The viewpoint of Vasiliy Kazakov, chairman of the Central Election Committee, has prevailed. He persuaded the deputies to regard elections as valid if no less than 25 per cent of the list of voters have participated. A candidate who earned a relative majority of votes, no less than 25 per cent of those who took part in the voting should be regarded as elected.

There were six proposals on the timeframe for holding the elections. The preference was given to December 8. Elections will be held everywhere except for Moscow and St. Petersburg and also cities and districts where heads of the administration have already been elected this year.

Starting at the end of the meeting a debate on indexing citizens' incomes and savings, parliament again got entangled in contradictions. It was agreed to put off the debate, and then it was discovered that there is no quorum for adopting even such a decision.

Resolution on Budget Fulfillment Printed

PM0710151591 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Oct 91 p 2

["RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Resolution on the Fulfillment of the RSFSR Republic Budget for the First Eight Months and on the RSFSR Republic Budget for the Fourth Quarter of 1991"—ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA headline]

[Text] Having heard the report by RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Finance Minister I.N. Lazarev on the fulfillment of the RSFSR republic budget for the first eight months and the RSFSR republic budget estimates for the fourth quarter of 1991, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet resolves that:

1. Cognizance be taken of the RSFSR Council of Ministers account of the fulfillment of the RSFSR republic budget in the first eight months of 1991.

2. It should be noted that the RSFSR Council of Ministers is not being sufficiently productive in its work to increase the revenue base of the RSFSR republic budget, is providing extra tax benefits without taking into account the crisis situation in the RSFSR economy, and is failing to ensure the requisite savings on the expenditure side of the budget in these conditions.

3. Fulfillment of the RSFSR republic budget for the fourth quarter of 1991 is to be authorized with expenditure in the sum of 39,455,348,000 rubles [R], given a revenue volume in the sum of R38,287,348,000 and a maximum allowable deficit of R1,168,000,000.

4. The RSFSR Council of Ministers proposal on setting RSFSR republic budget revenue in the fourth quarter of 1991 at R30,205,645,000 for the current expenditure budget and R9,249,703,000 for the development budget is to be accepted.

Protected items are to be approved in the RSFSR republic budget current expenditure budget. They will get full priority funding totaling R11,019,494,000, including R2,931,122,000 for pay and extra pay; R451,609,000 for economic expenditure (heating, lighting); R948,124,000 for student stipends; R1,074,001,000 for expenditure on food; R23,081,000 for expenditure on medicines and bandages; R348,196,000 for expenditure on the acquisition of minor furnishings and uniforms; R500,006,000 for grants for single mothers and low-income families; R1,369,700,000 for child allowances; R1,614,904,000 for expenditure on the upkeep of law-enforcement organs; R500,000 for appropriations for damages payments to rehabilitated citizens; R1,163,254,000 for appropriations to finance work on the fundamental improvement of land and other agricultural measures; R250,000,000 for the fund to support private farms; R100,000,000 for the contingency fund; R184,000,000 for the fund for regional development and financing of additional measures to develop regions of the North; R60,997,000 for the fund to eliminate the aftermath of the accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station and also the nuclear fallout in Chelyabinsk Oblast and the long-term effect of the nuclear tests at the Semipalatinsk test site on the population of Altay Kray and Orenburg Oblast, including R14,750,000 for the "Children of Chernobyl" program.

The financing of expenditure on the development budget and protected items in the current budget will depend on the volume of revenue obtained. The RSFSR Council of Ministers is to determine the procedure for financing the aforementioned expenditure.

5. The RSFSR Council of Ministers is to be authorized to make adjustments to the funds to be transferred to the union budget in connection with the transfer of union enterprises, associations, and organizations under the RSFSR state management organs' jurisdiction.

6. A quota of up to R14,130,000,000 is to be set for RSFSR Central Bank credits for the RSFSR Council of Ministers in the fourth quarter to finance additional expenditure by the agro-industrial complex on the maintenance of price parity during the exchange of products between kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and processing industry enterprises and other economic sectors, on the transfer of enterprises and organizations from union to RSFSR jurisdiction, and on the construction of general purpose highways.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers and RSFSR Central Bank are to conclude the credit agreement before 1 October 1991.

7. The RSFSR Council of Ministers is to devise practical measures to reduce the budget deficit in order to ensure uninterrupted financing of measures stipulated in the RSFSR republic budget until the end of the year and step up the monitoring of the fulfillment of the RSFSR republic budget and monetary emission.

8. The RSFSR Council of Ministers is to abolish all the tax benefits it has instituted if the benefits prove ineffective; it is to abolish tax benefits for funds and public organizations engaged in commercial activity, as well as the 5-percent sales tax on food and industrial goods and all types of services as of 1 January 1992.

[Signed] R.I. Khasbulatov, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet.
RSFSR House of Soviets, Moscow, 20 September 1991

Federation Affairs

Alma-Ata Meeting Concludes, Communique Signed

Yeltsin Supports Results

LD0410190291 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Oct

[Text] In his telephone conversation with Nursultan Nazarbayev, Boris Yeltsin highly assessed the results of the Alma-Ata meeting and unambigiously spoke in favor of the treaty initialed at it.

Yavlinskiy Expresses Surprise

LD0410192291 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] After the meeting in Alma-Ata, all the delegations flew to Baykonur to observe the launch of the TM-13 space ship, and there we journalists had a chance to talk to delegation leaders. We also talked to [Political Consultative Council member Grigoriy] Yavlinskiy. He was honest in saying to me in the interview that he was surprised that such a communique was signed. The deadline was set: 15 October. Nevertheless, I will not be surprised if things do not go so smoothly. Let us wait until 15 October. Maybe everything will be the way we want it to be. And maybe we will have a single economic market, which is absolutely necessary for the economy of every republic.

Yeltsin Issues Decree on State Security Measures

LD0510140291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1300 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation, has issued a decree on measures to guarantee the state security of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR]. The decree emphasizes that the legal successor to the USSR Committee for State Security on the territory of Russia is the RSFSR Committee for State Security.

The decree also proposes holding talks with the Union republics about the establishment of a coordinating body in the sphere of state security. The proposal for such a meeting, which is expected to take place at the end of October, according to Sergey Stepashin, chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet's Committee for Security, is already being sent out to the republics. At the meeting, it will be a matter of agreeing on what the republics transmit to the center, what they leave for themselves, and how the activities of the state security structures of the central apparatus will be financed. Stepashin added that preliminary talks on that range of questions have already begun with the Ukraine, Belorussia, Kazakhstan, and a number of other republics.

Sergey Stepashin said that on Friday the state commission, which he heads and which is investigating the activities of the USSR KGB, drafted a repeat letter to the USSR President—the first was sent 10 days ago—asking him to instruct the appropriate organizations not to make any fundamental alterations to the structure of USSR KGB bodies before the state commission has finished its work. As Stepashin stressed, this applies primarily to suspending the separation of the First Main Administration—that is, intelligence—from the KGB.

Legal Adviser Displeased With Decrees, May Resign

LD0510020091 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0200 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] Rumors are circulating in the Russian White House that 35-year-old Moscow lawyer Sergey Shakhray, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] state adviser on legal matters, intends to resign. Parliamentary circles say that Shakhray, who is also an RSFSR people's deputy, wants to resign because is dissatisfied with the fact that many of the RSFSR president's decrees are drawn up without consulting the state advisor, and without due juridical study. One well-informed source, who desires to remain anonymous, asserts that Shakhray has already submitted his resignation.

Council of Ministers Examines Support Measures

PM0310101991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Sep 91 Union Edition p 2

[Report by V. Romanyuk: "Bleak Times for the Entrepreneur in Russia"]

[Text] The Russian Council of Ministers has examined an enterprise support program. It concerns ways of reviving enterprise and developing it in the priority areas of the economy.

The debate had several strands. First, should the state interfere in business organization or should it merely develop the enterprise infrastructure? The predominant view was that until business gathers momentum it deserves vigorous support. Second, should our entrepreneurs have advantages over their Western partners? Here too the scales were tipped in favor of support for the home team. Which is in itself debatable: Throughout the world foreign capital enjoys the benefit of of national legislative arrangements [polzuyetsya rezhimom natsionalnogo zakonodatelstva].

The following question was raised: Is the antimonopoly policy attaining the set goal? Many ministries are actively switching to new forms—concerns and associations—while maintaining a monopoly of the market. Antimonopoly Commission Chairman V. Chernogorodskiy put forward the idea that each of these structures should be replaced by 7-10 companies competing with one another.

A discrepancy has developed in Russian business: The intermediary structures—exchanges, commercial banks—are developing vigorously, while enterprise in the production sphere is developing at a considerably slower pace. How can one make this sphere more attractive? Obtaining bank credits is the key. In many countries the state guarantees the repayment of bank credit, so why not introduce the same practice here? In particular for those entrepreneurs who set up branches abroad: In order to support them Russia might conclude a series of interstate agreements. But support for enterprise is not state policy in Russia at the moment.

There was consideration of a list of laws which entrepreneurs need and which should be included in the agenda of the next Russian Supreme Soviet session on a priority basis. Laws on mortgage law, protection of commercial secrets, bankruptcy, concessions, and intellectual property were among the principal ones named, and, at the same time, it was proposed that the draft law on indexation of people's incomes should be left out of consideration because it would cause a new round of inflation, and perhaps the total collapse of money supply in Russia.

Council Stops Deliveries to Communist Party

OW0510181191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1645 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers stopped deliveries, including those of cars, to the Soviet and Russian Communist Party Central Committees and to local party bodies, save for the enterprises, organisations, health centres, etc. under their control.

The deliveries will be rechannelled to the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

Rutskoy Champions Fyodorov as Prime Minister

AU0210140491 Vienna DER STANDARD in German 2 Oct 91 p 3

[Report by Marianne Sajdik from Moscow: "Politicalization Must Stop"]

[Excerpts] Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy was a colonel in the Soviet Army in Afghanistan. [passage omitted]

In answer to the question by DER STANDARD about candidates for the office of Russian prime minister, Aleksandr Rutskoy said: "Someone with a strong character, an effective administrator who represents a very modern style belongs in this post. He must have an excellent understanding for all the serious problems—for example, market economy relations, so that our economy can finally be further developed and stabilized. The most important thing is that politicalization in all fields of life finally be stopped."

"I only know one candidate who could manage that. This is Stanislav Fyodorov; he can solve all problems in a progressive way, and he is a good administrator. While all the others only work with their tongues, one can already see what Fyodorov has created with his own hands and his own head." Ophthalmic surgeon Stanislav Fyodorov, who is chief of several of ophthalmic hospitals, is a deputy of the All-Union People's Congress and a great advocate of the market economy. [passage omitted]

Action Group Calls For New Left-Wing Party

PM0410153391 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 2 Oct 91 Single Edition p 2

["Statement by the Action Group for Rallying Russia's Socialist-Oriented Left-Wing Forces"—SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA headline; under the rubric "Parties, Movements"]

[Text] Esteemed fellow citizens, comrade communists! We address to you a call to start work immediately on creating a new Russian party of socialist-oriented left-wing forces based on the CPSU's progressive forces. It is sad to admit this, but the CPSU has spent itself as a political structure in its previous form, has lost confidence, and has in fact ceased to exist.

It has a responsibility to the peoples, the millions of ordinary people whose expectations have been betrayed and who bear the heavy burden of discord, lawlessness, and poverty. This is a tragedy for millions of communists. But it pales into insignificance before the abyss of shocks into which long-suffering Russia has been cast. It is precisely in these dramatic days, filled with new expectations, that we are proposing a union of all who retain political activeness and are capable of acting in the name of civic accord, the country's peaceful and constitutional extrication from chaos and collapse, and the profound renewal of all our lives.

Today we have an opportunity to create a strong, nonapparat party of like-minded people, united by healthy ideas, noble aims, and comradeship. This will be the party of Freedom, Truth, Morality, and Justice. A party which recognizes that man as an individual is of paramount value. Every honest toiler, every Russian will be able count on support and defense from arbitrary rule, unemployment, and impoverishment. Our compatriots, wherever they might be, should be confident that their interests will be consistently upheld.

These ideas, reflected in the new draft CPSU program "Socialism, Democracy, and Progress," could underpin the position of the Russian party of socialist-oriented left-wing forces. While upholding socialist values and displaying firmness and consistency, it is incumbent upon us to learn mutual understanding and collaboration with all whose main aim is to create a democratic state with a high standard of living for its citizens. It is necessary to protect society from left- and right-wing extremism and adventurism in all their manifestations, whatever their sources. Russia's genuinely democratic forces will gain a principled ally in the shape of the new party. Remaining committed to the international friendship of peoples, we also consider it important to create a mechanism for collaboration with people sharing our views in other republics.

Comrades, we propose that all who share our views create regional action groups and prepare to hold a republic constituent conference during the last 10 days of October this year.

Our contact telephone numbers in Moscow are: 298-00-25, 205-44-71, and 451-12-84.

[Signed] USSR People's Deputy Anatoliy Alekseyevich Denisov; Aleksandr Nikolayevich Maltsev, first secretary of Nizhniy Novgorod Party Gorkom [city committee] and city soviet deputy; USSR cosmonaut Vitaliy

Ivanovich Sevastyanov, RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] people's deputy; RSFSR People's Deputy Anatoliy Nikolayevich Solovyev, chief hospital physician, Moscow City; USSR People's Deputy Roy Aleksandrovich Medvedev; Gennadiy Ivanovich Sklyar—first secretary of Obninsk Party Gorkom and city soviet deputy, Kaluga Oblast; RSFSR People's Deputy Ivan Petrovich Rybkin; RSFSR People's Deputy Nina Ivanovna Solodyakova; Yevgeniy Nikolayevich Krasnitskiy, worker from St. Petersburg; Yuriy Vladimirovich Lavrenev, worker from Moscow City.

Foreign Minister Kozyrev Discusses Family, Work

PM0410141191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Oct 91 Union Edition p 3

[Report on interview with RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Foreign Minister A.V. Kozyrev by IZVESTIYA political observer A. Bovin; place and date not given; first paragraph is introduction: "Thinking About Our Own Interests. IZVESTIYA Political Observer A. Bovin Converses With RSFSR Foreign Minister A.V. Kozyrev"]

[Text] The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Foreign Ministry has just had a housewarming. Andrey Vladimirovich received me on Staraya Ploshchad, in the building that previously housed the CPSU Central Committee apparatus. Familiar corridors of power. It turned out that the minister has the office in which Yu.V. Andropov worked at one time and where I was first invited roughly 30 years ago "for a look-see." But ghosts come out long after midnight, so nothing stood in our way.

[Bovin] If you have no objections, let me start by asking you some questions about yourself. First, could you tell us about your age, your training, and work.

[Kozyrev] I am 40 years old. I graduated from Moscow State Institute of International Relations. I began my Foreign Ministry career as a consultant [referent] and 16 years later ended up as head of an administration. I have not had any lengthy tours of duty abroad.

[Bovin] So, the best things are ahead for you. It is hard to be a diplomat without having been ambassador at least once. But let us get back to the questions. Second, could you tell us about your family.

[Kozyrev] I have a wife and daughter.

[Bovin] Is your daughter a student at Moscow State Institute of International Relations?

[Kozyrev] No, she is 11 years old and is a pupil at an ordinary school in Moscow. It is interesting and moving that during the putsch one of my daughter's classmates and her mother came to our house and suggested that we hide at their place....

[Bovin] How did you transfer here from the Union Foreign Ministry?

[Kozyrev] Silayev telephoned and suggested that I pop round. I went round to see him and agreed immediately. Then I went to Shevardnadze. We had an unusual discussion: "I agreed, but I want your go-ahead." He immediately said "yes."

[Bovin] How many people were there then at the RSFSR Foreign Ministry?

[Kozyrev] I think there were 70.

[Bovin] Where were your premises?

[Kozyrev] At 49A, Prospekt Mira. A small building. It was better there than I expected. Admittedly, I felt that it was somewhat ostentatious. But not the "cesspool" I had imagined. I was greeted by a number of young, knowledgeable diplomats full of drive. There were several veterans, good, decent people. By and large the ministry performed the functions of interregional ties: between the RSFSR and the FRG's Laender, between the RSFSR and China's provinces, and so on. The consular administration was quite large.

[Bovin] Do you like it here?

[Kozyrev] On the whole, yes. But there are also minuses. The offices are too large. Alter them? That is foolish, since they underwent repairs recently. But things are still cramped for us: The licensing committee is also housed here.

[Bovin] Put up some resistance! Judging by what is going on in the city, if you are unnerved, you may encounter a sealed door in the morning....

[Kozyrev] Thanks for the advice.

[Bovin] How many personnel do you plan to have in total?

[Kozyrev] Roughly 400-500 people in the central apparatus. I am taking my cue from the foreign ministries of small European states. Say, Finland, where there are 200-300 more staffers than my rough calculations.

[Bovin] Are you not afraid that Russians may think this strange. The scale is very different,

[Kozyrev] The point is that I am by nature a "Union man." I am in favor of the Union in a new form. That is why I am planning the structure and size of the apparatus on the premise that there will be a central Foreign Ministry. I am against funeral marches and lamentations about "collapse," "disintegration," and so on. We must realize that our greatness is inescapable. Russia is doomed to be a great power. Not because we have a lot of people or a lot of missiles. Our greatness resides in our spiritual wealth. It exists and will continue to do so.

Please excuse me for waxing lyrical. I will return to business. A compact, professional, well-equipped apparatus must be formed. On the understanding that the Union Foreign Ministry will retain some tasks and functions, that option will be the best one. The cadre issue should be partially resolved by transferring diplomats from the Union Foreign Ministry here. So as not to waste specialists, but retain them.

[Bovin] What is the general idea of a demarcation line between you and the USSR Foreign Ministry?

[Kozyrev] We are working on this together.

I would not want you to get the impression that we want to take the center's place. There must be demarcation not only at Union-RSFSR level, but also between the Union and all the republics.

Separation of functions should stem from necessity and reality. Today we have a USSR president and a State Council who determine the strategic areas of foreign policy. It is the task of the Union Foreign Ministry to serve this state structure and represent the president and the State Council.

It also has another, coordinating, function. Particularly in such areas as nuclear arms and the macroproblems of the environment and the economy, all global problems in general.

Third and last, it sees to it that there is no discord. The republics will, after all, engage in direct bilateral ties, particularly with neighboring states.

All three functions require a mechanism for joint decisionmaking. In the first two cases Union structures and the republics account for 70 and 30 percent respectively in the joint implementation of these decisions. In the third area the ratio is reversed: 70 percent for the republics and 30 percent for the Union Foreign Ministry.

[Bovin] In your view, will there be ambassadors from the republics to other states?

[Kozyrev] I do not know what will happen. But I would prefer this not to happen. Apart, of course, from those republics that leave the Union. Union embassies must not be torn apart. That would cause headaches for us and our partners. It will be very difficult. I want there to be a single Union ambassador, but I want there to be a new mechanism for appointing this ambassador (and for ratifying delegation heads)—via the Foreign Ministers Council.

[Bovin] Does the RSFSR intend to join the United Nations?

[Kozyrev] In theory, yes. But, practically speaking, it is a difficult question given all the republics' interests. I spoke about this to Willy Brandt. He pictures the following scenario: Republics attend the General Assembly as sovereign states, while the Union becomes an observer and coordinator. The Union would retain a vote in the Security Council. That is in the interests of all republics.

If the Foreign Ministers Council formulates directives on how to act at the Security Council, there will be no problems.

[Bovin] There is now euphoria over independence. So, now may not be the best time to distribute roles. Is it not better to wait a while?

[Kozyrev] The future of the Union depends on the decisions that we make today. Why? Because if we wait and do not forestall events, we will break up the Union. Regrettably, the Union Foreign Ministry is through inertia sliding into its old ways, speaking on behalf of the entire Union. At the same time there is growing irritation within the republics: Someone says something in international affairs, but they do not know what has been said.

[Bovin] The inertia of the old thinking is particularly strong in structures like the USSR Foreign Ministry.

[Kozyrev] Yes, but things do not get any easier just by saying this. The emergent structures of republic foreign ministries are beginning to counter this inertia. If both trends—the Union Foreign Ministry's acting in the old way and the republic foreign ministries' acting in a new way—develop, centrifugal forces will gain influence. If we try in a tactful and civilized manner to coordinate the interests and needs of the above "poles," we will in time create an effective mechanism for joint decisionmaking, a mechanism for cooperation, if we work to forestall events, clashes between the old and new will be minimized.

[Bovin] You said that Russia does not want to be the "center." Here I would like to remind you of what Khasbulatov said in Japan. Was that well thought-out policy or something fanciful, a peculiarity of his character?

[Kozyrev] Khasbulatov spoke on television and himself commented on what he had said. There is no foreign-policy aspect in what I read in IZVESTIYA.

[Bovin] But there is this "aspect": Russia is, excuse the expression, the "central" republic.

[Kozyrev] I am only talking about foreign policy. First, Khasbulatov handed over Yeltsin's letter. That provides the necessary impetus and that is a good thing. We need to advance rapidly. Second, regarding the specific situation, yes, Russia is "central." Russia accounts for 70-90 percent of all Union potential in ties with Japan. No one can or will resolve the island question for us.

Russia is not "central" because it wants to replace the center, but because that is the real situation in this specific case, in relations with Japan.

[Bovin] How do you order your priorities for Russian foreign policy? What is the most important point?

[Kozyrev] I would divide priority areas vertically and horizontally.

Vertically. We are moving away from military priorities. I think that we must move toward economic priorities and focus attention on the real interests of Russian economic revival. We need not military-political parity with all the world around us but parity with the civilized countries of the northern hemisphere in terms of the population's quality of life.

[Bovin] That is not so much a foreign-policy as a domestic-policy priority.

[Kozyrev] I espouse the idea that foreign policy is a functional or auxiliary instrument of domestic policy. We are talking about giving priority to the economy, so all foreign policy must be geared not to fighting for spheres of influence, but to serving our economic interests. And in areas where we have no economic interest, we must act a little more circumspectly.

[Bovin] Who are your top-priority partners?

[Kozyrev] Rich, developed countries that have already proved democratically and economically viable. We are aiming at the United States, Western Europe, and Japan.

[Bovin] Will the "Third World" not take offense?

[Kozyrev] The main point is for our own people not to take offense with us. What about the "Third World"? We will tackle conflict zones—there is universal interest in that. But in a normal situation, where we have no economic interests, there will just be cultural ties.

[Bovin] It used to be said with pride that there is no problem in world politics that can be solved without the Soviet Union's being involved.

[Kozyrev] That is an antieconomic formula. We must be involved in areas where our state interests are affected. Why compete with the United States in areas where it has vital interests, oil, for example? Yet we have oil in Siberia. Our interests lie in attracting capital investments to Siberia. Tyumen should not be a ramshackle [zatrapeznyy] province, but something like the United Arab Emirates. That is where our interest lies!

[Bovin] Parity in terms of standard of living and way of life is wonderful. But what about military-strategic parity?

[Kozyrev] As far as weapons are concerned, we do not need parity, but guaranteed security.

[Bovin] Are you talking about security guaranteed by the possibility of the guaranteed annihilation of the "enemy"?

[Kozyrev] Annihilation is going too far. All you need is to have the possibility of inflicting unacceptable damage on the aggressor. That possibility also ensures guaranteed security.

I am sure that there is no threat from the West. But one must bear in mind the mentality of a people who experienced 22 June 1941. That is why we must keep and perfect the necessary minimum nuclear weapons, and maintain them in a suitable state. We must scrap the absurd idea that all nuclear tests should be stopped immediately. Tests are necessary, but fewer of them and with smaller yield. Perhaps, we should agree to set up mutual control of testing ranges or even to use joint testing ranges.

As for tactical nuclear weapons, it is necessary to accept Bush's proposals and go further—and completely eliminate these weapons.

[Bovin] As I see it, you have outlined the vertical priorities. What about the horizontal priorities?

[kozyrev] Here is what I have to say about horizontal priorities.

The republics or, more precisely, the sovereign states located on the territory of the former republics constitute our first area of interest. The nature of relations will be different—be they federative, confederative, or treaty-based. But it is important to ensure that any option complies with the principles formulated in Helsinki and Vienna.

The Northern Hemisphere represents the second area of interest. Our neighbors—the United States, Japan, Korea, China, and East Europe. The second area is superimposed on "vertical" economic interest.

More remote countries represent the third area. We have encountered a global problem here: The North-South problem or, more correctly, the problem of overcoming the South's lag. I would suggest the following option: As we get on our own feet, we should join international "Third World" aid programs and expand our ties with them. But I repeat, we must first overcome our own underdevelopment. That is why rational egoism is needed from which everyone stands to gain. This is, in effect, right and applicable to the former and new union republics. Interdependence brings about the situation where the better things are for your neighbor, the better they are for you.

[Bovin] Previously, we described ourselves as the developing countries' "only ally." Now, as I see it, we are making quite a drastic about-face. Many people are grumbling and criticizing us, calling us traitors....

[Kozyrev] They will grumble and they will curse. Particularly the extremists whom we kept afloat with our weapons, money, and even soldiers. We must renounce this legacy. And think about our own interests. For example, we love and respect Cuba. But there comes a point where we have to say "no." We want the same for them as we want for ourselves—democracy and an effective market economy. If they do not want to take that path, there is no need to force them, but nor is there any need to continue with a marriage that has become a burden.

[Bovin] Evidently, it is time to wind things up. What is your relationship with Pankin like?

[Kozyrev] I was introduced to him recently, during Yeltsin's visit to Czechoslovakia. I think we have quite a good relationship.

'Grand Prince' Comments on Russian Revival

LD0410174791 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Paris October 4 TASS—"Our nation has suffered a great deal and will suffer more in order to make up for 70 years of communist dictatorship and obscurantism. The path will be long and difficult. It is an illusion to believe that it is possible to cover all its stages at one go or to find miraculous pseudo-solutions. But we shall have enough patience and courage. We can count mostly on our own resources and labour," head of the Russian imperial dynasty Grand Prince Vladimir Kirillovich said in an interview with PARIS MATCH. He expressed hope that "with the help of the Lord, our country will sooner or later find new hope, confidence and happiness, which it deserves, in harmony with faith."

Speaking about complicated processes now developing in the USSR, the grand prince said that he did not regard them as an absolute tragedy. "If Russia has a normal government, the trend towards the secession from Moscow will be reduced or disappear altogether. In my opinion, those countries are fully interested in remaining on a common orbit. A federation is beneficial to them, because otherwise they would have to begin their independent existence with paying old debts and would be forced to ask for credits abroad," Vladimir Kirillovich said.

He believes that "Russian President Yeltsin is doing his utmost for getting his country to the right path of historic development, interrupted in 1917.... I recognise the merits of Gorbachev, because he wanted to improve the situation and tried to resolve the serious problems facing Russia today. So far as Yeltsin is concerned, I believe that he, as the president of Russia, seeks to do all he can for restoring normal living conditions and it seems to me that he is capable of it."

"I am thinking only about the interests of my country," the grand prince continued. "I have nothing against democracy. On the contrary, democracy for me is what I have always waited for during more than 70 years of life as a political refugee."

Speaking about a possibility of the restoration of monarchy in Russia, he stressed that "going back is always undesirable. One should move forward to something new. A monarchic form of government could be useful as a factor of unification of this vast territory. A monarch independent of parties and influences, playing the role of a supreme arbiter in conflicts that may occur in a country—this is his true role. I would discharge this duty with pleasure. But the first thing needed for it is the will of the nation. It should want to use the services I could offer to our motherland. I shall never ask for a visa, however. In my position I should receive an official invitation."

New Russian Business Leader Explains Organization

PM0310110191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Sep 91 Single Edition p 1

[Report on interview with Gennadiy Semigin, vice president and chairman of the board of the Congress of Russian Business Circles, by L. Strzhizhovskiy under "We Are Heading for the Market" rubric; place and date not given; first paragraph is introduction: "It Takes Your Breath Away... How A Soviet Businessman Sees the Future of Russia"]

[Text] Gennadiy Semigin, vice president and chairman of the board of the Congress of Russian Business Circles, and his advisers have offices on the 21st floor of a high-rise block in the center of Moscow. The vista extends to the Vorobyev hills. The sense of space is gripping, just like, moreover, the ideas which I had the chance to hear.

[Strzhizhovskiy] The congress was first rumored when you met with I. Silayev recently. Who are you and where did you come from?

[Semigin] The congress as an organization was born 21 May this year, when 150 representatives of business circles decided to pool their efforts in creating a market economy. Today there are many more of us, people from virtually all sectors of business and the economy. We exist on our own money: The entry subscription is 100,000 rubles.

Through our combined efforts we want to create a market in Russia and to make the state wealthy.

[Strzhizhovskiy] What are you engaged in today?

[Semigin] Our efforts are concentrated in three directions. Since enterprise is virtually defenseless, we must begin with legislation. A legal basis for the market economy is needed. We are trying to generalize and analyze all the proposals in this sphere. Normative acts for the development of a legal mechanism in conditions of the transitional period are prepared from proposals and ideas. To this should be added direct participation in the drafting and expert assessment of Russian economic bills.

The second direction is the economy. Basically, we want to get the mechanism of private enterprise moving at full speed and clear all obstacles from its path. To do this we need a general concept, unified market infrastructure systems, new projects and programs, active interrepublic links, and much else.

And last, there is our sociopolitical activity. It is closely linked with all the preceding things. Business circles must be represented and defended in organs of power and administration, the market economy must be propagandized, an entrepreneurs' movement must be organized, and allies must be found. For example, I believe that we need our own mass movement—if you like, a political structure—that expresses the interests of enterprise. The electorate exists for this—the middle class. Incidentally, all the influential parties in the West lean on the support of this class.

[Strzhizhovskiy] What are the prospects for the coming year, in your view?

[Semigin] There is only one road—the market economy. But the market has not yet become the decisive factor in the entire economy. Therefore I see a difficult winter against the background of a slump in production. The spring will see the start of an upturn, then there will be another slump. By that time the market sectors will have gathered strength and a confident process of economic growth will begin. I know how the word "winter" puts a spell on people. That is why I specifically state: I think that the situation can be contained in the winter, but cannot be fundamentally changed. Because there is no market yet.

[Strzhizhovskiy] What are your relations with society?

[Semigin] We are encountering mutual understanding and goodwill. An example is our meeting with I. Silayev, who is, incidentally, the honorary chairman-elect of the congress. We put forward our ideas, which were given not only a hearing, but also a serious examination. We have been met halfway on legislation and on specific matters. Overall, one point seems important: Both in the congress and in state structures assessment of the situation cannot be cut and dried. Ministers, deputies, entrepreneurs—each have their own difficulties. The malaise is the same—there is no experience, and no clear idea about methods or mechanisms.

The more effectively this process continues, the faster we will enter the market. Everything depends on people. Our congress is assisting this in its own way—we support Russia's entrepreneurs.

Shield Union Urges Yeltsin To Defend Russia

LD0410205791 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1300 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] The Shield [Shchit] Union has called on the president of Russia to take decisive and urgent action to defend his people and the sovereignty of Russia. In the union's message to Boris Yeltsin, distributed in Moscow, the main issue raised is that of a National Guard. Indecisiveness in this matter and wasted time could cost the people dearly, says the message.

Meanwhile, delegates to the Congress of Soldiers' Mothers of Russia today declared an indefinite hunger strike to protest the appointment of Anatoliy Alekseyev as chairman of the committee for the affairs of servicemen and their families under the USSR president. They are at the Russian parliament building demanding an immediate meeting with Ruslan Khasbulatov.

Soldiers' Mothers Movement Plan Rail Blockade

OW0510183191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1645 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The leadership of the movement "Russian Soldiers' Mothers" plans to start a blockade of railways in Moscow in case the demands of the movement are not met. This warning was issued to the minister of the USSR Transport Ministry on Saturday, said the movement's chairwoman Lyubov Lymar [spelling as received] to IF [INTERFAX]. Among the movement's main demands: the establishment of an investigating task force to inquire into servicemen's deaths, Anatoliy Alekseyev's resignation as chairman of the presidential State Committee for the Affairs of Servicemen and the Members of Their Families and as head of Russian parliament's Commission for the Investigation of the Death and Injuries of Servicemen. The movement also demands air time on TV to counter what Lymar described as falsehood about the movement that Alekseyev sounded off during TV programme Vremya this week. The movement activists have been in the fourth day of picketing the hall of the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet.

Colonel Addresses Deputies on Space Program

LD0410231991 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1738 GMT 2 Oct 91

[From the "Parliamentary Diary" program presented by Lyudmila Semina]

[Text] The Soviet of the Republic has listened to a report on our space program, as the deputies were insisting. Colonel (Piskunov), a member of the Committee on Communications, Information Technology, and Space, was given the floor. It was interesting information.

[Begin (Piskunov) recording] I will allow myself to remind you that the Russian leadership and president have spoken on more than one occasion in favor of reexamining the amount and direction of expenditures for space projects while maintaining the all-Union perspective on space programs. The development of events, however, has uncovered evidence of the unpreparedness and lack of willingness of the majority of republics to finance all-Union space projects.

On the other hand, a tendency to nationalize the space programs is appearing. At the initiative of the Kazakhstan president, the Baykonyr Cosmodrome has been declared republican property, the Union-republican program entitled "Kazakhstan Space" has been confirmed, and a republican agency for space studies has been created. An Azerbaijani space program is being developed, and a Council for Space and a republican institute of space studies have been created under the president. The Ukraine has declared a number of projects in the Union program to be republican projects, and Ukrainian representatives are actively participating in the work of the UN technical subcommittee for space.

At the same time, it is well known that the main burden of the expenses involved in implementing the Union space program is borne by the Russian Federation. This situation requires a reexamination of the position and policies of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] in terms of the all-Union program and property and forms of management in the space industry. The majority of the design installations are on Russian territory, as are most of the scientific research institutes and space industry enterprises which consume the major portion of state expenditures on scientific research institutes for space rockets and projects which often seem dubious from the point of view of Russian interests.

Russia has the world's most overloaded cosmodrome, Plesetsk, the creation of which demanded hundreds of millions [currency not specified] in outlay. Statistics on rocket launches over the last 30 years shows a 1.5- or two-times greater increase in the burden assumed at Russian cosmodromes in comparison with the one at Baykonyr. Veterans had this saying: Baykonyr works for TASS, Plesetsk works for us.

The Plesetsk Cosmodrome is the main—but not the only—testing ground in Russia for developing missile systems which form the basis of our country's nuclear missile parity. Thus Russia bears the main expense for both implementing the space program and ensuring the USSR's parity in nuclear missiles. It is inevitable that we would feel the serious material, ecological, and moral expenses.

Over the years the Defense Ministry has taken around 10 million hectares of Russian land for cosmodromes and bases for rocket stages falling back to earth. Over 30 years, more than 1,000 rocket stages and other major disconnecting parts containing hundreds of tonnes of highly toxic rocket fuel components have fallen on this land. The number of tests of military missiles and satellite launches has inevitably had an effect on the ozone layer, leading to the formation of ozone holes. All of this, along with social and economic problems, leads to a growth in social tension in the local population and even to the threat to blockade cosmodromes, strikes, and other forms of mass protest. [end recording]

We also heard such details as the Kazakhstan president obtaining a plan for a special space program—Kazakhstan Space—from the Defense Ministry. It was also said that, while keeping Baykonyr as the property of Kazakhstan, the republican leadership—as can be concluded from today's TV reports [on the launching of a Soviet-Austrian crew from Baykonyr]—is counting on a continuation of the volume of Union investments for its development. As an alternative, there is a possibility of transferring the cosmodrome's territory and equipment to foreign states. But this, as they say, is conjectural information, information to ponder.

The deputy summed up the report by saying that the situation clearly requires the development of a concept for a national space policy, an RSFSR law on national space policy, and proposals for Russia's modes of participation in the all-Union space program. Drafts on these ideas will be presented to the republican leadership in the very near future.

Local Affairs

Protest Held Against Buryat SSR's Name Change

LD0410190391 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Participants in a picket held on the main square of Ulan-Ude have protested against renaming the Buryat Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] the Buryat-Mongolian Republic. The Buryat Council of Ministers has put the legislative initiative on the name change to the republic's Supreme Soviet. Without waiting for the result of this initiative, the pickets have demanded a referendum of the whole people, says a TASS correspondent.

Chechen-Ingush Situation 'Aggravated Sharply'

Mass Meeting Begins Again

LD0610110491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2140 GMT 5 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy, 5 Oct (TASS)—The situation in the Chechen-Ingush Republic has aggravated sharply again. Liberty Square, in front of the building of the Council of Ministers of the republic, has been blocked by barricades of motor vehicles. A mass meeting of people who support the executive committee of the nationwide congress of the Chechen people has started again.

As a TASS correspondent was told in the executive committee of the congress, it has become known to leaders of the national movement that some of the 13 members of the highest temporary council of the republic tried to replace Khuseyn Akhmadov, head of this temporary legislative body, who is at the same time deputy chairman of the executive committee of the Chechen congress. Regarding this as an attempt—which was allegedly supported by local KGB bodies—to usurp power, the executive committee of the Chechen congress announced a dismissal of the former temporary council, and by force of their guardists blocked the building of the republican KGB.

A spokesman of the executive committee of the Chechen congress, speaking on local radio, announced that the KGB will not operate on the territory of the Chechen Republic until new power structures are created. New power bodies will be formed by the executive committee itself, using the authority given to it by the Chechen people.

A duty officer answered the telephone when a TASS correspondent rang the republican KGB, but he passed the telephone to a representative of the National Guard. The latter, refusing to introduce himself, said that all the rooms in the building were sealed by the guardsmen, that there had been no resistance to them, and that there was full order in the building.

Provisional Committee Set Up

LD0610175491 Moscow TASS in English 1743 GMT 6 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy October 6 TASS—Developments in the Caucasian Chechen-Ingush region have acquired a truly revolutionary scale. The logic and rhetoric testify to this.

Today's session of the executive committee of the national congress of the Chechen people set up a provisional revolutionary committee and endowed it with full authority until the election of new structures.

All local bodies of Soviet power obstructing the implementation of decisions of the executive committee of the Chechen congress will be disbanded, the session decided.

The actual composition of the revolutionary committee is expected to be made public on Monday.

Two congresses are now working in Groznyy—the congress of the Ingush people and a congress of Moslems.

That the situation has come to a head is made clear in particular by the arrival of Russian Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy and Russian Interior Minister Andrey Dunayev.

Rutskoy Assesses Events

LD0610200691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1830 GMT 6 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy, 6 Oct (TASS)—RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy and retired General Dzhakhar Dudayev, leader of the Chechen national movement, talked face to face for over an hour in Groznyy today, both sides closely guarded by men carrying automatic weapons.

Immediately after the meeting, A. Rutskoy told a TASS correspondent that he had flown to Groznyy at once on hearing of the armed attack on the republican KGB. His sole aim was to prevent further clashes and bloodshed.

I am afraid, he stressed, that Chechen-Ingush will become a second Nagorno-Karabakh. The symptoms are already present. There was a power vacuum after the dissolution of the republic's Supreme Soviet and not even a small town can exist if there is a power vacuum.

According to the Russian vice president, an accord was reached with Dzh Dudayev, chairman of the executive committee of the Chechen congress, according to which there would be "no attacks on the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the KGB, or other state offices." Members of the National Guard would be told that the relevant articles of the criminal code and the law exist. The leaders of the national movement are to stop politicizing the people and are to go about organizing elections of a new Supreme Soviet and, if the people wish, a president of the republic as well, in normal conditions.

After lunch today, A. Rutskoy addressed a congress of the Ingush people in Groznyy. He said that there is only one way to solve the problem of territory illegally taken from the Ingush people in 1944 and given to neighboring North Ossetia. There must be a congress of elders from the whole of the northern Caucasus, and it must pass a majority vote that the president of Russia should issue a decree on the territorial rehabilitation of the Ingush people.

A. Rutskoy told a TASS correspondent that he would ask Boris Yeltsin to entrust the organization of this congress of elders to him.

In the evening the RSFSR vice president met representatives of the intelligentsia of Chechen-Ingush.

Ingush To Create Own Republic

PM0310143991 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Oct 91 p 1

[Report from RIA, TASS, ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA roundup under the "News" rubric: "The Ingush Await Their Republic"]

[Text] The Ingush people have firmly resolved to create their own republic within the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic]. This was announced on Groznyy Television by several Ingush deputies including Sergey Bekov, current chairman of the Chechen-Ingushetia Council of Ministers. He proposed that until Ingush Republic organs of power are elected, the currently operating executive committee of the Congress of Ingushetia People's Deputies of all levels should be considered the official power structure.

Sobchak, Deputies Engaged in 'Sharp Clash'

PM0410144191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Report by Yevgeniy Solomenko: "Open Confrontation Between City Soviet and Mayor"]

[Text] St. Petersburg—The opening of the latest city soviet session was marked by two events—the renaming of the Leningrad City Soviet as the St. Petersburg City

Soviet, and a sharp clash between its deputies and Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak of St. Petersburg.

The bone of contention was a different interpretation of the powers of the soviet and City Hall. Apart from other points, the session agenda included a report from the executive on preparations for the winter, the use of the city budget, and the question of repealing the mayor's illegal orders pertaining to the distribution of the housing stock and nonhousing funds. It was expected that A. Sobchak would deliver a report. But the mayor refused. Any attempt to interfere in the affairs of City Hall, including its use of property, he stated, will be blocked by me as illegal; I do not plan to share my powers with anyone, nor to discuss this matter with you, esteemed deputies.

For their part, the deputies launched a tirade of criticism of the mayor.

"Ittifak" Party Proposes Tatarstan Armed Forces

OW0410214691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1900 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Tatar National Independence Party "Ittifak" have released a political statement calling for an immediate abandonment of the autumn call-up (to the Soviet Armed Forces) on Tatar territory and the issuing of an order enshrining the right of the citizens of the republic to serve only on the republic's territory.

The statement also called for cooperation in returning Tatar citizens serving in the armed forces outside the republic. At the same time the authors of the document call for the creation of republic's own armed forces.

External Affairs

Refugees From Georgia Flood Into North Ossetia

LD0510063491 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0500 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] As of 1 October, 55,575 refugees from Georgia are registered in North Ossetia, including 17,000 people from South Ossetia. The Internal Affairs bodies report that men make up the absolute majority of the refugees. Most of the refugees are housed with relatives and are civilians. Very few have found jobs. The situation is arousing concern among the law enforcement bodies, as the number of crimes is on the increase.

International Affairs

Defense Official Views Withdrawal From Baltics

LD0310200491 Moscow TASS in English 1907 GMT 3 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondents Oleg Moskovsky and Andrei Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow October 3 TASS—"Specific political steps and measures are needed to enable the identification of the legal status of the Soviet troops stationed in the Baltic republics over the transitional period," Valeriy Ochirov, deputy chairman of the Committee on Defence and Security Affairs of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, told TASS.

"The status will enable a systematic and smooth fulfillment of arrangements connected with the troops withdrawal," he said.

In a TASS interview upon the completion of a meeting of the Soviet Defence Ministry's Board, Ochirov stressed that "any politically or strategically significant solution on the Baltics should be made in the interests of people," and that "interests of all sides should be taken into account, including Baltics peoples, thousands of Soviet servicemen and members of their families, and reserve militarymen."

This stand of the people's deputy seems to be rather substantiated. TASS has learned from reliable sources, that almost 20,000 Soviet militarymen of active service and reserve have recently received notifications from the court authorities with a demand to immediately leave the housing granted to them by local councils.

"All problems, including this one, can and should be solved on the basis of a political consensus at the negotiations table," Ochirov noted in this connection.

Russian, Latvian Delegations Meet in Moscow

LD0310215791 Moscow TASS in English 2034 GMT 3 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandras Budris]

[Text] Moscow October 3 TASS—The first meeting of heads of state delegations from the Soviet Union and Latvia was held at the permanent mission of Latvia in Moscow today.

Head of the Latvian delegation Janis Dinevic told TASS over the phone that the meeting, that lasted for almost 90 minutes, was of preliminary and nonofficial character.

In the words of Dinevic, his conversation with Soviet delegation head academician Aleksander Yakovlev outlined a range of issues to be discussed during the future bilateral negotiations.

Yakovlev told correspondents upon the completion of the meeting that the major aim of it was "an acquaintance" with a negotiations partner.

Relations Protocol Signed

LD0410201291 Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Alexandras Budris]

[Text] Moscow October 3 TASS—The Russian Federation and the Latvian Republic have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at embassy level. A protocol to this effect was signed here today by Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrey Kozyrev and his Latvian counterpart, Janis Jurkans.

In the protocol, the two sides reaffirm their striving to maintain mutual relations in accordance with the letter and spirit of the United Nations Charter, the final act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the 1990 Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the treaty, dated January 13, 1991, on the principles of interstate relations between the Russian Federation and Latvia.

"Russia intends to develop relations with Latvia on a 'two-tier principle'", Kozyrev told TASS. "Representatives of the Russian Federation will participate in the USSR's future talks with the Latvian Republic on issues that Russia recognises as being within the competence of the Union, specifically those connected with the USSR Armed Forces and security."

"On the other hand," Kozyrev said, "there will be also direct talks on problems that constitute the 'fabric of bilateral relations proper'—economic and cultural ties and human rights issues."

Preparations are now under way for talks between the USSR and Latvia. Within the framework of this process, Soviet delegation leader Aleksandr Yakovlev on Thursday had a meeting with his Latvian counterpart Janis Dinevic.

'German Statehood' Protested in Saratov Oblast

PM0410123591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Oct 91 Single Edition p 1

[Report from PRAVDA-TASS roundup: "Protest on the Volga"]

[Text] A protest demonstration has taken place in front of the Saratov Oblast Soviet Executive Committee building, where a routine session of the oblast soviet is being held. Representatives of the public from the oblast's Marksovskiy, Sovetskiy, and Krasnoarmeyskiy Rayons demanded that German statehood is not created on the Volga.

Dispute Continues With Japan Over Kuril Islands

Kunadze's Visit Ends in 'Scandal'

PM0410105391 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Oct 91 p 1

[Report by S. Sokolov: "Leave Half a Kuril, Friend. Scandal on Sakhalin"]

[Text] A trip by Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze to the famous Kuril Islands of Iturup, Kunashir, and Shikotan ended in a semidiplomatic scandal. In reply to Kunadze's statement that he would be guided in his actions by the 1956 Soviet-Japanese joint declaration (which declared, in particular, the transfer of Shikotan Island to Japan), the "governor" of Sakhalin Valentin Fedorov, chairman of the oblast soviet executive committee, made a personal issue out of it: "...the person known as Georgiy Fridrikhovich Kunadze has no moral or ethical right to decide the fate of what has been Russian land since time immemorial." Immediately after the deputy minister's departure for Moscow, Fedorov announced the creation of a Struggle for the Kuril Islands Headquarters. One of the headquarters' tasks is to expose the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Foreign Ministry's "pro-Japanese" stance. Fedorov also promised to send Yeltsin a telegram asking him to dismiss the deputy minister, who had upset people in Sakhalin.

At our request, Georgiy Kunadze commented, with an air of considerable serenity, on the conflict that has arisen:

"I do not see the actual appearance of this headquarters as an open challenge to the government. The creation of the headquarters is, however, an attempt to reduce people's feelings to a common denominator. And feelings in the islands are not as unequivocal as the oblast soviet executive committee would like to think."

Sakhalin Residents Reassured

PM0410121991 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 3 Oct 91 p 3

[TASS report: "Kuril Islands: Do Not Whip Up Passions"]

[Text] The territorial problem existing between our country and Japan over the Kuril Islands will not be resolved in haste, without consulting the inhabitants of Sakhalin Oblast or without due consideration of their interests. Vitaliy Guliy, USSR people's deputy and RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] presidential representative to Sakhalin Oblast, made a statement to this effect in a speech on local radio today.

The trip to Iturup, Kunashir, and Shikotan Islands by Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze; USSR People's Deputy Oleg Kalugin; and Sergey Sirotkin, member of the republic Supreme Soviet Human Rights Committee, prompted a disproportionate reaction by oblast inhabitants.

"The situation is very complex but I do not want to overdramatize," Vitaliy Guliy said. "We can perceive discontent and opposition—maybe not total but certainly considerable—toward those who came and tried to tell the truth. For a long time we were captives of a lie foisted upon us by former rulers and their ideologists. But now, when representatives of the government—a government which enjoys the people's confidence, moreover—tried to open our eyes to the complexity of the problem while assuring us that it will be resolved in conditions of glasnost and taking account of the population's interest without fail, some entirely groundless suspicions and accusations have been voiced."

Possible Return Protested

*LD0410162591 Moscow TASS in English
1528 GMT 4 Oct 91*

[By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Belovitsky]

[Text] Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk October 4 TASS—Residents of Sakhalin held an all-region rally on Friday in protest against a return of the four disputed islands seized by the Soviet Army in the closing days of the Second World War to Japan. They called attempts to solve domestic economic problems by making territorial concessions a betrayal of national interests.

The political situation in Sakhalin deteriorated after acting Russian parliamentary speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov's recent visit to Tokyo and Deputy Russian Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze's trip to Iturup, Kunashir and Shikotan.

Valentin Fyodorov, head of the Sakhalin Regional Executive Committee, called Kunadze's visit "the beginning of a large-scale campaign to prepare public opinion for a return of the islands to Japan". Fyodorov is also the leader of the Kuril Committee, which coordinates activities of local authorities, public and political movements and the population aimed at settling the territorial dispute.

Demonstrators severely criticised the Russian leadership's decision to remove Fyodorov from his post and proposed him for the post of Sakhalin and Kurile governor. They urged the Russian leadership to preserve the territorial integrity of the republic and called on its peoples to support their struggle for the preservation of the Kuril Islands under Russia's jurisdiction.

Deputy Head of the Maritime Regional Council D. Grigorovich sent a telegram to the Sakhalin Regional Council and Executive Committee, and the Russian Parliament, showing support for Sakhalin residents's drive for the preservation of the South Kuril Islands within the Russian Republic.

Resolution Adopted at Rally

*OW0610214991 Moscow INTERFAX in English
2031 GMT 6 Oct 91*

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, the capital of the Far Eastern region which also includes the Kuril Islands, has become a scene of rallies against a possible transfer of the disputed islands to Japan. Residents of Sakhalin and the Kurils have become especially active after the islands were visited by high-ranking officials of the Russian Federation that exercises jurisdiction over the territories in dispute. The local population has assumed that these visits by Moscow officials indicate a not-so-distant settlement of the dispute on Japanese terms.

Saturday's rally in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk adopted a resolution saying in particular: "If Russian leadership bow to Japanese demands, they will commit a crime that will not be forgiven by their descendants".

Kozyrev Suggests Rational Process

*LD0510072991 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0500 GMT 5 Oct 91*

[Text] Russia will play a key role in resolving the Kuril Islands problems, given its national state interests, declared Andrey Kozyrev, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic minister of foreign affairs. In an interview with a RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent, he said that guarantees must be given for the population of the islands. They must not suffer in any way—materially, politically, or psychologically—in any solution of the issue. For the moment, however, it is hard to say definitely how the issue will be resolved, the minister pointed out. In his view, this should be the subject of negotiations. There are no simple solutions here, but it is clear that there is no question, nor can there be, of any handover of the islands to Japan without appropriate interpretation of this entire problem. For the moment, discussions are under way which must be freed from emotionalism and elements of hysteria on both sides, the minister said. In his view, each has the right to his own point of view, and to expressing it in any form, but in discussions mutual accusations must be avoided. As regards the diplomatic side of these issues, the Japanese must be listened to and their arguments examined, Andrey Kozyrev commented. It is, however, the prerogative of the legally elected parliament and president to make the final decision.

Silayev, Khaleqyar on Afghan Settlement Prospects

*LD0410191191 Moscow TASS in English
1737 GMT 4 Oct 91*

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Moscow October 3 [date as received] TASS—"We attentively follow the development of the situation in Afghanistan and around it and support any efforts towards a peaceful settlement of the Afghan problem," Ivan Silayev, head of the Soviet committee for day-to-day economic management, said here today. He held talks with Afghan Prime Minister Fazl Haq Khaleqyar who has been here on a brief working visit.

Silayev and Khaleqyar pointed out the active character of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan in resolving the Afghan conflict and favoured a further intensification of joint efforts to find such peaceful resolutions that would adequately take into account the interests of all conflicting Afghan sides.

It was stated that the Soviet-U.S. accords on Afghanistan, which are fully consonant with the U.N. secretary-general's statement of May 21, this year, lead the Afghan peace process to a qualitatively new stage and create a favourable opportunity for the earliest ceasefire in Afghanistan and for the start of an intra-Afghan dialogue. The same is the goal of the new initiatives proposed recently by the leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan.

Silayev and Khaleqyar devoted much attention to matters concerning bilateral economic cooperation in which many problems have admittedly piled up. Afghanistan, in particular, is greatly interested primarily in a continuation of Soviet deliveries of grain and lubricants.

Silayev assured the Afghan prime minister that the Soviet Union "will take all measures to fulfill its obligations in the current year in accordance with the agreements signed", notwithstanding the complex economic situation in the Soviet Union itself.

The Afghan side reaffirmed its readiness to render all necessary assistance in resolving the problem of searching for and freeing Soviet servicemen who had missed in action or had been taken prisoner in Afghanistan.

On the same day the Afghan prime minister gave a news conference, stating that Afghanistan's and the Soviet Union's positions on ways to settle the Afghan conflict and their attitudes towards the U.N. chief's peace plan for Afghanistan and to the joint Soviet-U.S. statement on Afghanistan "fully coincide".

This, he emphasised, "inspires our hope that peace in our country will be achieved by political methods, through negotiations and through mutual understanding between Afghans".

The head of the Afghan Government evaluated the results of his working visit to Moscow as highly useful and as yet another positive step towards strengthening friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries.

Speaking about the position of the country's leadership on a settlement of the conflict in Afghanistan, Khaleqyar said it can be achieved primarily "through mutual understanding between Afghans themselves and through the formation of a national unity government during a transitional period".

"We do not think about power. We think of securing that a steady peace is established in the country. And we are prepared to discuss any measures and ways that may lead to that," Khaleqyar emphasised.

Lukin Interviewed on Official Visit to Israel

PM0310123591 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 26 Sep 91 p 7

[Interview with Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet International Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations Committee, by correspondent Yuriy Kashin under the "Russia and the World" rubric; place and date not given: "We Want Good Relations With Israel"]

[Text] A Russian parliamentary delegation headed by Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet International Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations Committee, has returned from a trip to Israel. Our correspondent Yuriy Kashin talked with him.

[Kashin] Vladimir Petrovich, your delegation was the first official Russian parliamentary delegation to visit Israel since the State of Israel was formed and diplomatic relations were established with the Soviet Union. These relations were severed by Moscow in 1967 and have not been restored since. A paradoxical situation is emerging: We do not have official relations, but a delegation was invited. Is this not symptomatic of the fact that the time has come to establish diplomatic relations between Russia and Israel without waiting for the Union to do this?

[Lukin] Actually, this question is more complex. There is no doubt that the time has come to establish relations between the Union authorities and Israel and then, in accordance with our sovereignty and accords, to move on to sharply increase links between Russia and Israel and to fill them with specific content. This concerns both interparliamentary contacts and other contacts in the economy, culture, and so on. Clearly it was a mistake to sever diplomatic relations at that time and this must be corrected, but in such a way as not to damage our relations with third countries.

For quite a long time the Israeli leadership occupied a cautious position vis-a-vis Russia, proceeding from the priority of the possibly speedy establishment of diplomatic relations with the Union and subordinating all other actions to this. But the August coup in the USSR made its own amendments, clearly altering many aspects of Tel-Aviv's approach as immediately after these events came the invitation from Ben-Eliezar, chairman of the Knesset Commission Foreign Affairs and Defense.

[Kashin] Which of Israel's leading figures did you meet?

[Lukin] Our delegation held meetings and talks with Prime Minister Shamir, Foreign Minister Levi, Knesset Speaker Shilansky, opposition leader Peres, and other officials. We discussed a wide range of problems of mutual interest.

[Kashin] Preparations are under way for a conference on a peaceful settlement to the Near East problem. There are still many difficulties on this road. Did you touch on them?

[Lukin] We discussed this question too. As is well known, at present relations between Israel and the United States are quite strained and President Bush is resolutely minded to freeze guarantees on American loans to Israel unless it clearly states that it will not settle immigrants from the USSR on disputed territories. We told our interlocutors: So far as we are concerned, emigration is not a matter of short-term expediency or some kind of deal. It is a problem of freedom of movement, the right of citizens to live and to regard as their country the one they choose. Quite naturally, here we would not want to seriously aggravate relations with other countries. This position was conveyed to the Israeli leadership.

[Kashin] And was was the reaction?

[Lukin] I would call it restrained. Although I think that this problem is sometimes exaggerated for political purposes. In fact, only 0.5 percent of all Russian immigrants are currently settling in the disputed territories. So this problem is practically nonexistent.

[Kashin] Were questions of economic cooperation discussed?

[Lukin] Before the trip delegation members Mikhail Guberman and Vladimir Bryukhovetskiy talked with I. Silayev. The idea of starting to elaborate an economic agreement between Russia and Israel was hatched.

Russia, UK Agree on Small Business Development

PM0410115991 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 3 Oct 91 p 1

[Report by Yevgeniy Skukin: "Press Conference: Banking on Small Business"]

[Text] "Mr. Michael Howard, [British] secretary of state for employment, and Mr. Chernogorodskiy, chairman of the State Committee for Antimonopoly Policies, decided to cooperate in elaborating projects to stimulate and support the fledgling small-enterprise sector in the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic]...." So begins the joint statement signed by the sides in the White House.

"It was here that Russia's leadership headed by President B. Yeltsin defended the very right to freedom and a free economy," Committee Deputy Chairman V. Yermakov said. "And we are grateful to the British Government for supporting our efforts to extricate ourselves from the crisis despite the current instability in the Russian economy."

In his reply speech Mr. Howard stressed: "The fact that we are here in this famous building and taking the first steps toward cooperation is a great honor and a privilege for me. We British believe in practical assistance, and today's talks centered on this. We have a lot of experience in the development of small enterprises and we are ready to share it."

According to academician V. Tikhonov of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences, president of the Union of Associated Cooperative Members, the priority now must be to adopt a package of laws in support of small business. However, the most complex and lengthy process is the mental perestroyka of people who for decades have been brought up in an antientrepreneurial mentality.

Belorussia

Shushkevich Discusses Trip to Germany

OW0410173691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1702 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO; from "Diplomatic Panorama"]

[Text] A delegation of the Republic of Belorussia has returned from Germany. The chairman of the republican Supreme Soviet Stanislav Shushkevich has told a news conference in Minsk that the delegates were not asking for charity but attracting new technologies, knowledge and experience of an advanced country. He reviewed his contacts with German businessmen, including the leaders of major corporations and banks. Among other things, Shushkevich discussed the possibility of Belorussia receiving the status of the European Communities' associate member.

Shushkevich said that a direct flight between Minsk and Frankfurt-on-Main would open shortly, and the German consulate in Minsk will start giving guest visas to those who would like to visit Germany.

Ukraine

Kravchuk: West Ready To Recognize Independence

OW0410212891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1900 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "There is no doubt that the countries of the West will recognize the Ukraine as an independent government, if the people vote for independence at the referendum on December first," Leonid Kravchuk, the chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine, said in Kiev on Friday [4 October]. He spoke at a press conference about the results of his visits to Canada, the US and France. It was here that Kravchuk alluded to the opinion of the leaders of those countries, which had been voiced during talks.

The chairman of the Ukrainian parliament also stated that at meetings with people from Western business circles the question of possible admittance to the International Monetary Fund [IMF] was raised. In his words, an agreement was reached in which IMF and World Bank experts would visit the Ukraine, analyze the situation on site, and make appropriate decisions.

In talking about the Ukraine's atomic potential, Kravchuk said that the republic will support agreements between the USSR and the United States on the reduction of strategic atomic power. In the future, however, the Ukraine will demand direct participation in further agreements, as an independent state on whose territory atomic weapons are situated. Kravchuk is decidedly against moving atomic weapons from one republic to another. In his words, the Ukraine cannot neglect its own security interests.

Fokin Predicts Confrontation With Center

LD0610044291 Kiev Radio Kiev International Service in Ukrainian 2300 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Text] Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin does not exclude that confrontation between our republic and the Union center will grow stronger. In his letter to Ivan Silayev, chairman of the interrepublican committee for economic management, he points out that unreasonable actions by central structures who direct the credit policy push Ukraine to such a stand.

Under the conditions prevailing now, our republic cannot influence policy formulation in any way. In addition, it is virtually impossible to monitor how these multibillion credits from abroad are distributed in our country and what share is allocated to the Ukraine.

Vitold Fokin has resolutely come out against actual imposition upon our republic by the center of part of the Soviet Union's external debts, which amounts to $20 billion. Our prime minister pointed out in his letter that, in reality, this part is considerably lower and does not exceed $10 billion.

Transcarpathia Soviet 'Practically' Dissolves

LD0510171191 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrainian 0600 GMT 2 Oct 91

[Report by correspondent Ivan (?Selmetskyy)]

[Text] The division in the deputies' corps appeared at the oblast soviet's extraordinary session which accepted two main issues for examination: first, the oblast's political situation; and second, confidence in the oblast soviet of people's deputies leadership and in giving Transcarpathia the status of an autonomous kray as part of independent Ukraine. Deputies did not agree on expressing no confidence in the leadership on the first day during stormy debates which sometimes were far from tolerent. The session's work was interrupted. This aggravated the situation both in the assembly hall and on the square where a meeting was going on. Individual oblast soviet deputies who were joined by city soviet deputies and a group of Uzhgorod University students declared a hunger strike. Meeting participants blocked all the building's exits and were not letting the deputies out until morning. They demanded the immediate self-dissolution of the oblast soviet. On Sunday, a statement by Voloshchuk, oblast soviet chairman and executive committee chariman, on his resignation was read on Transcarpathia oblast radio. This did not remove, however, the tension of the political opposition and the meeting passions. On Monday, in particular, university students and lecturers held a meeting discussing the demand for self-dissolution of the oblast soviet and for holding elections ahead of schedule on a multiparty democratic basis. In the meantime, the hunger strike has been continuing for five days on People's Square. It is unknown whether or not the oblast soviet extraordinary session will resume its work under these circumstances. There are doubts about whether the number of deputies necessary to continue the session's work will assemble. The oblast's political opposition has long been maturing. Ever more frequently Uzhgorod City Soviet and oblast democratic organizations accused the oblast soviet leadership and the majority of the deputies' corps, I will note that it was not always reasoned, of procommunist attitudes and incapability to implement economic and social transformations in Transcarpathia. Simultaneously, opposition formed in the oblast soviet consolidating into a single democratic block. I do not want to make political forecasts, however, more people in Transcarpathia tend to think that the crisis of the present authorities is inevitable.

The extraordinary session of the Transcarpathia Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies continued its work on 2 October under sharp division of the deputies' corps. The Ukraine's national blue and yellow flag was hoisted over the oblast soviet building. Such a decision was adopted by the session during the hunger strike. Deputies spent all day in acute debates discussing the hunger strikers demands who insisted on self-dissolution of the oblast soviet. The session adopted the decision to request the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet to set elections for the oblast soviet ahead of schedule before 30 March 1992. This means that the Transcarpathia Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies has practically dissolved itself. The commission of the Ukraine Supreme Soviet Presidium arrived in the oblast to appraise the situation.

Democratic Forces To Meet on Presidential Race

LD0610153991 Kiev Radio Kiev in English 0100 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Text] The association of the democratic forces of Ternopol region has decided to hold a forum of the intellectuals of the region on 12th October. That initiative was supported by the regional organization of the major political forces of Ternopol area. The local organizations are Rukh, or People's Movement of Ukraine, Ukrainian Republican Party, and the Democratic Party of Ukraine.

In their joint statement they proclaim the main goal of that forum. It is the consolidation of the intellectuals of the region in their backing of the democratically minded candidates in the presidential campaign that started recently in the Ukraine.

As for today, more than 30 candidates have proclaimed their intention to race for the presidential post. The Ukrainian democrats are now thinking about further promoting only one candidacy by their joint efforts.

Here is what the Ukrainian Republican Party leader, Mr. Levko Lukyanenko thinks about it all.

[Begin Lukyanenko recording with superimposed translation into English] One political line is being represented by Mr. Kravchuk, because we all understand perfectly well that he will be the only candidate from the communist forces. The other political force is the democratic one and here we have Lukyanenko, Chornovil, Yukhnovskiy, about 25 people. We all go in more or less the same direction. To be frank with you, Mr. Kravchuk goes in the same direction, too, because he's also in favor of Ukrainian independence and in favor of democracy. But here we have the difference in ways and means of reaching that. Kravchuk means that we'll have very slow strengthening of our state and slow economic reform, which is the most important. If we elect a democrat, we'll have rapid changes, rapid strengthening of our state, of our independence, and rapid economic reform. [end recording]

Moldova

Dnestr Official Welcomes Kishinev Talks Results

PM0410132291 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Oct 91 First Edition p 3

[Correspondent Colonel N. Mulyar report under "Direct Line" rubric: "Agreement Signed"]

[Excerpt] Kishinev—It seems that today, while I am writing these lines, people will be able to go to sleep peacefully in the Dnestr region, and on the screens of the TSN program we will no longer see ugly skirmishing and brawling between former Ministry of Internal Affairs colleagues—Comrade Grosul, chief of the Dnestr Republic Internal Affairs Administration, and Mr. Antoch, first deputy of the Moldova Republic police [as published]. Agreements on the normalization of the situation in Dubossary specifically and in some other settlements in the Moldova Republic Left Bank have finally been signed in Kishinev with the participation of leaders from Moldova, the regions of the Dnestr area, and a delegation of Russian parliamentarians. As a result, an accord has been reached on the simultaneous withdrawal of law and order protection forces and various civilian formations. From both Dubossary and other settlements. Roadblocks will be removed.

How has all this been taken by the population of the Dnestr area?

Tiraspol

I spoke with G. Marakutsa, chairman of the Dnestr Republic Supreme Soviet and leader of the delegation at the talks, over the telephone:

[Marakutsa] Our republic's deputies and population are satisfied with the agreement. This is the first official round of talks between the Dnestr region delegation and the Moldova Republic leadership headed by Prime Minister V. Muravski through Russian mediation. I hope the results of the talks will suit both sides. They indicate that common sense is starting to prevail in mutual relations. The agreement not only calls for the renunciation of violent methods, but also appoints a conciliation commission which will hold talks on normalizing the situation in the Dnestr region, including the issue of restoring its statehood.

The issue of the Dnestr region's statehood will also be discussed at subsequent meetings. If we can find a common language with the Moldova leadership, we will also be able to build a common home based on equal rights and principles. If not, we shall build our home independently or we shall seek to build it with someone else in the Union.

[Mulyar] Grigoriy Stepanovich, will the renewed railroad blockade be lifted?

[Marakuts] If all the terms of the agreement are fulfilled and the deputies from the Dnestr region who have been arrested are released, the blockade will of course be lifted immediately.... [passage omitted]

Snegur Assesses Alma-Ata Talks, Economic Realism

LD0410181491 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1500 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Commenting on the results of the meeting of republican leaders in Alma-Ata, Moldova's President Mircea Snegur said it is possible to preserve all economic ties with other republics within the framework of the community of sovereign states. One should be a realist in economic policy, for one can find oneself without any raw materials, fuel, or many other things one day. He noted that the republic inherited this situation from the former empire, which purposefully pursued the policy of integration on such a scale so as to be able to preserve a unitarian state. At the same time, the conclusion of a treaty on economic cooperation for three years does not, in the opinion of Moldova's president, prohibit the republics from searching for different ways of integration with other states.

Urges Sanctioning Economic Agreement

LD0610100191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1857 GMT 3 Oct 91

[By correspondent Viktor Demidetskiy]

[Text] Kishinev, 3 Oct—Moldovan President Mircea Snegur today requested the parliament of Moldova to sanction the signing of the economic agreement worked out at the Alma-Ata meeting of the leaders of the 13 republics.

Addressing parliamentary deputies, he said that at the talks in the capital of Kazakhstan, the delegation of Moldova immediately stated its wish to discuss only economic matters, and most definitely not political matters. Mircea Snegur pointed out that there could be no question of a union but only of a community of sovereign independent states, and spoke against the country's State Council, founded by the Fifth USSR Congress of People's Deputies.

It is essential to aspire to membership of the European Economic Community, the Moldovan president stresed, but the experience of the eastern European states has shown vividly that 3-4 years at least are needed for that.

Parliament Political, Economic Talks Detailed

AU0410211791 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2018 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Chisinau [Kishinev], ROMPRES, 4/10/1991—On the last day of the sixth session of the parliament of the Republic of Moldova, the deputies endorsed an extension to the decision on setting presidential elections, pursuing the participation of all citizens of the republic in the poll.

Mircea Snegur, president of the Republic of Moldova, and Constantin Tampiza, first deputy prime minister and minister of the national economy, reported on the meeting in Kazakhstan of the leaders of sovereign and independent states of the former USSR.

Snegur mentioned inter alia that the talks focussed mainly on the functioning of the economies of the sovereign republics, although there were attempts to divert the discussions to political matters, an idea that was rejected. As was the notion of "union" of the new economic structures of the sovereign states. The idea of "economic community of the member states" was accepted. The formation of such a community was sustained by the necessity to maintain the links of economic integration of the former union republics, links that could not be severed all of a sudden, as that might lead to disasters in all sovereign states' economies. The three-year period planned in the agreement of Alma-Ata could be a period of transition for the integration of the economy of the Republic of Moldova in the market economy, in Europe's economy. There are plans of setting up an economic committee to coordinate the economic activity of the states signatory to the agreement.

President Mircea Snegur and Minister Tampize highlighted the necessity that the parliament should give the necessary powers for the Republic of Moldova to sign the agreement.

Georgia

Parliament Ratifies State of Emergency

AU0710094691 Paris AFP in English 0938 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Tbilisi, Soviet Georgia, Oct 7 (AFP)—The Georgian parliament, in a vote boycotted by the opposition Monday, ratified the state of emergency declared last month in the Caucasus Republic by President Zviad Gamsakhurdia, officials said.

The parliament, in a six-hour closed-door session that ended early Monday, also decided to set up a commission to consider opposition demands for access to television and the lifting of restrictions on the media, they added.

Merab Uridia, the chairman of the foreign affairs committee and a member of the parliamentary opposition, said the vote ratifying the September 24 state of emergency decree was approved 97-3.

"The opposition declared it would not take part in the vote because we knew we had already lost," Uridia said.

Parliamentary officials said a general debate on the month-old political crisis in Georgia had been put off until Tuesday and the special media commission set up by the parliament, which includes one representative from each political party, was to meet later Monday.

There were also several rallies of supporters and opponents of Gamsakhurdia planned for later in the day, according to local journalists.

There were no reports of violence in Tbilisi during the night but the situation in the Georgian capital remained tense, with heavily armed supporters of the Georgian leader still patrolling the area outside the parliament building.

Opposition deputies who took part in Sunday's debate were taken to and from the parliament building in buses under armed escort and one of them described the situation around the parliament as "very dangerous."

Late Sunday, government spokesmen announced that troops loyal to a former senior Georgian defense official, Vazhia Adamia, had imposed a blockade of the main rail and road link between Georgia and two Black Sea port cities.

A parliamentary spokesman said the blockade was set up at the mountain pass of Rikotai, near the city of Kutaisi about 200 kilometers (120 miles) west of Tbilisi.

The pass is the main overland link between Tbilisi and the coastal cities of Batumi and Suhumi.

Opposition sources said that Adamia, former chairman of the Georgia Defense Committee and at one time a key Gamsakhurdia aide, was demanding the release of at least one of his men said to be held prisoner by the government.

Opposition Protests, Clashes Continue in Tbilisi

Talks Reportedly Under Way, Truce Holding

LD0510005691 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2100 GMT 4 Oct 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Summary] There was shooting near Tbilisi this morning. Correspondent Ekibar Dzhafarov reports:

The shooting ended soon after midday. Half an hour ago the situation remained quiet. Talks are under way with government representatives, including on the subject of a possible exchange of hostages, of whom there are two on each side. Unconfirmed reports speak of Gamsakhurdia being willing to make partial concessions. Although the truce is holding, the insurgent National Guards are reinforcing their positions. Official reports say that six people were wounded during the shooting and one has died. A peaceful stand-off between opposition supporters and Gamsakhurdia supporters continues on Rustaveli Avenue outside government house. Official information sources say that the opposition is constantly trying to provoke incidents. The former first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee was arrested on charges of hooliganism.

Situation 'Extremely Exacerbated'

LD0510022691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1927 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By SAKINFORM-TASS correspondent Eduard Ediberidze]

[Text] Tbilisi, 4 Oct (TASS)—This evening the situation in Tbilisi, especially in the city center, has become extremely exacerbated. Representatives of the opposition parties who came to government house, indignant about the armed clashes at the Tbilisi reservoir and the supporters of Zviad Gamsakhurdia who had gathered at a rally here, in essence formed two opposing camps. They were separated only by rows of buses that partitioned Rustaveli Street.

Meanwhile, the rally planned here has yet to begin. Heated discussion is currently under way by both sides about the intensive firing that took place at the Tbilisi reservoir this morning, when blood was shed. Points of view about who provoked this armed clash differ completely. Contrasting opinions are also being expressed in connection with the circumstances under which Kitovani's guards shot down the "Mi-2" helicopter which, according to the official version, was checking the oil pipeline route in the region of the firing and began to descend because the pilot noticed a burning car down below. Until now even the rumors about the fact that during the clashes there were armed individuals from other republics, in particular Chechens and Ingushes, together with the guards who remain loyal to the president, are being given differing interpretations, although the city's military commandant has categorically denied these conjectures.

In short, the situation in the city remains explosive. Radio and television continue to broadcast from government house carrying official reports which, in the situation that has arisen, are also being given differing interpretations by the people of Tbilisi.

A report has just been released that a session of the Georgian Supreme Soviet has been called for 8 October.

Mass Opposition Arrests Reported

LD0510144491 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1400 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] There have been mass arrests from the moment of the dispersal of a rally in Tbilisi of those who during the stand-off backed the opposition. I will remind you that, according to official data, 81 people were wounded and 1 was killed after the dispersal of the rally.

Traffic in the center of the city has been stopped. The streets are being patrolled by people with submachineguns. The National Guard under the command of Tengiz Kitovani, which has switched to the side of the opposition, has not taken part in today's events, the Russian Information Agency reports. As before, it blockaded in the area around Tbilisi reservoir. There is no contact with the guard.

The Georgian Supreme Soviet session intended to meet on 8 October starts today, 5 October, at 1900. According to information passed to the Russian Information Agency, the deputies supporting the president have been issued with a special pass to get into the session. The parliamentary opposition to Gamsakhurdia does not possess such documents, and most probably they will not be able to take part in the work of the session.

Green Party Disputes Reporting

LD0510154491 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1300 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] Mass arrests of opposition supporters are taking place in Tbilisi. At around 0100 On 5 October, the first clashes occurred between participants in two rallies—opposition supporters and defenders of President Gamsakhurdia. According to the official version, the initiators of the clashes were the opposition supporters, who mounted an assault on Government House.

According to Georgian Green Party members who took part in the night's events, however, the incidents began after Gamsakhurdia supporters, armed with sticks and stones, tried to disperse the opposition rally. Fire engines and guardsmen loyal to Gamsakhurdia also took part in the first attempt at dispersal. A second attempt to suppress the opposition supporters' rally took place around an hour later. This time, the president's supporters were backed by APC's as well. At approximately 0730, the rally organized by the opposition was dispersed by the APC's and the national guardsmen loyal to Gamsakhurdia.

A RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent was told by the Georgian Green Party that soldiers fired assault rifles at the people. There are dead and wounded. According to unofficial and insufficiently checked information, eight to 10 people were killed. According to official information, 81 were wounded and one person was killed. Tbilisi radio has reported that all the casualties were supporters of President Gamsakhurdia. But the Georgian Greens claim that that is a lie and an attempt to shift the blame for the bloodshed onto the opposition. According to information from the Greens, most of the wounded are supporters of the opposition, including their own organization.

Since the dispersal of the Tbilisi rally, there have been mass arrests of those who openly supported the opposition during the confrontation. Traffic in the city center has been halted, and the streets are being patrolled by persons wielding assault rifles.

The national guardsmen, commanded by Tengiz Kitovani, who went over to the opposition, are reported to have taken no part in today's events. They are still isolated near the Tbilisi reservoir and there is no communication with them.

The Georgian Supreme Soviet session scheduled for 8 October will start today, 5 October, at 1900. According to the Green Party, deputies supporting the president have been issued special passes to gain access to the meeting hall. Members of the parliamentary opposition have no such documents, so they will probably not be attending the session.

Opposition Faction Attacks Parliament

LD0510122891 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Text] According to an Interfax correspondent in Georgia, last night an armed opposition group headed by Irakli Tsereteli, leader of the National Independence Party, made an attempt to occupy the parliament building. At about 0200, having broken through a cordon of the president's supporters, the crowd occupied a square next to the parliament. However, it was dispersed by guards and militia. The second attempt took place at about 0500. This time, besides stones and various objects, attackers used firearms.

According to official spokesmen, in particular, Deputy (Trio Gelantiya), the putschists fired at unarmed people while defenders of the parliament fired into the air. According to some information, seven people received firearms injuries and one person died.

At about 0700 firing on the parliament started again from roofs of neighboring houses. Nobody was injured or killed this time. According to information received from the Georgian Health Ministry, about 80 people were admitted to city hospitals during last night, 40 of whom have serious injuries. Nearly all of them are supporters of the president.

The republic's law enforcement bodies detained several of the most active participants in the attack on the government house, among them Mikiladze, former first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party.

Georgian Supreme Soviet Chairman Akakiy Asatiani made a statement on last night's events on republican television. He announced that a session of the Supreme Soviet of the republic would take place at 1900 today. Earlier it had been scheduled for 8 October. As has become known, issues of stabilizing the situation in the city will be considered at the session.

At present it is relatively quiet in Rustaveli Prospekt. Armed oppositionists have taken up positions in various buildings. However, neither the government's guards nor the militia are trying so far to attack them. Calls on the population to come with weapons and to defend the parliament are issued repeatedly on local radio and television.

Guards, OMON Members Exchange Fire

LD0510180991 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Network in Russian 1630 GMT 5 Oct 91

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] We have just received news from GEORGIAN IPRINDA AGENCY correspondents. An armed incident occurred in Tbilisi today. As is known, rebel [National] guards headed by Kitovani have left the television center to prevent bloodshed. They chose as their station the leisure zone on the city's outskirts. Georgian OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] fighters, who were blockading the guards, took up positions on the nearest hill beginning in the early morning. The guards' positions were shot at from a helicopter and the exchange of fire began. This ended with the arrival of a mediating mission of Georgian Supreme Soviet deputies. The latter succeeded in causing the blockade on the guards to be lifted and in bringing about the withdrawal of the OMON subunits. According to preliminary information, six people were wounded during the exchange of fire, one of whom died. The situation remains tense.

Our editorial office has received a statement from the Georgian National Democratic Party. It stresses that Zviad Gamsakhurdia's policies go against the Republic of Georgia's interests and of its people.

Stabilization Prospects, 'Calm' Noted

LD0610180791 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Report by IZVESTIYA correspondent (Besik Urigashvilli) from Tbilisi—recorded]

[Text] There is relative calm in Tbilisi today. Following the bloody night of 4 October, when there were large numbers of wounded as well as fatalities, the situation has more or less stabilized. No doubt this was helped to a large extent by the session of the republic's Supreme Soviet. The first session yesterday was held behind closed doors, but nevertheless I do have information about that session. I have been told by opposition deputies that it passed in a fairly constructive manner, generally speaking, in accordance with parliamentary ethics. There were no serious attacks upon each other or President Zviad Gamsakhurdia, who said virtually not a single word during the whole session. An address was adopted to all of Georgia's political forces that was signed by practically all the Supreme Soviet deputies. The address speaks of the prevention of fratricidal clashes and armed confrontation.

Today's session started at 1700. On the agenda are three main questions: the status of the national guard; alternative television; and political prisoners who were arrested during the August and September events in Tbilisi. The ultimate stabilization of the situation depends to a large extent upon the resolution of these problems.

Overall there is one thing that can be said: Certain prospects for a stabilization of the situation have at last taken shape for the first time in real terms following a long and drawn out crisis.

Opposition Leader Blames Gamsakhurdia for Violence

AU0610134591 Paris AFP in English 0959 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Text] Tbilisi, Soviet Union, Oct 6 (AFP)—Opposition leaders attending an emergency session of the Georgian parliament have renewed their calls for President Zviad Gamsakhurdia's resignation, blaming the republic's leader for bloody clashes here Saturday in which at least two people died.

Opposition deputies said Vaja Adamia, leader of the Merab Kostava Society, demanded that Gamsakhurdia step down during a late night parliamentary session called Saturday in an effort to find a political solution to the increasingly violent confrontation in the Soviet republic.

Adamia also warned that if government forces tried to arrest him during the meeting, his armed supporters—some 300 troops and an armored car—would attack the building, they said.

In the meantime, a hundred opposition supporters were gathered outside Tbilisi University, where they had regrouped after Gamsakhurdia's supporters drove them from the capital's main thoroughfare Saturday in clashes in which two people died and more than 50 were wounded.

The diminished size of the opposition contingent was caused by the fear of Tbilisi residents to leave their homes after Saturday's clashes, observers said.

Dozens of those who remained however vowed to go on hunger strike until Gamsakhurdia stepped down.

Outside the parliamentary building, hundreds of Gamsakhurdia's supporters held a rally where, by a show of hands, the events of Saturday were described as an opposition led "putsch" that had been repelled.

According to this "official" version, contradicted by eyewitnesses, opposition supporters opened fire on the government forces.

Otherwise the capital was quiet overnight with only a few isolated bursts of shooting breaking the calm.

The emergency parliamentary session was expected to reconvene on Sunday at 3:00 P.M. (1200 GMT).

Earlier Saturday, Gamsakhurdia made a televised appeal for an end to the "shooting and the violence" so as to find a political resolution with the opposition "through parliamentary channels."

He said a "peaceful solution" was necessary in the Caucasian republic, which declared its independence from Moscow last April.

During a month-old political crisis, the opposition has accused Gamsakhurdia, elected in May with 87 percent of the vote, of acting like a "dictator" and violating human rights.

'Anxious Atmosphere' Reported in South Ossetia

LD0410204391 Moscow TASS in English 1948 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz October 3 TASS—There was anxious atmosphere in South Ossetia over the past 24 hours. The city of Tskhinvali, which lives under the state-of-emergency regime, was massively fired upon from machine-guns, grenade launchers and unguided missiles last night.

Weapon emplacements of Georgian militants are located on the outskirts of Zemonikozi, Tamarasheni and Prisi villages.

The firing resulted in heavy damage to houses and public buildings in the southern part of the city. According to preliminary data, eight people were wounded, among them women and children. The Ossetian side returned the fire.

According to the press centre of the South Ossetia Information Committee, instances of hostage taking and seizure of motor vehicles have again become frequent in Tskhinvali and Znauri Districts. Over the past 24 hours, twelve Ossetes were taken away to an unknown destination.

Armed militant groups are again concentrating on approaches to Tskhinvali from the direction of the Znauri Highway. Militants have fully blockaded the main road near Kekhvi village, impeding the advance of a motor convoy with humanitarian aid supplies from Vladikavkaz.

In the daytime one can ride to Tskhinvali only if escorted by armoured personnel carriers and reinforced patrols of USSR Interior-Ministry troops.

In the administrative centre of the autonomous region, there is a disastrous shortage of food, medicines and fuel.

The population of South Ossetia welcomed the report that a group of people's deputies of the South Ossetian autonomous region requested that the North Ossetian parliament bring up for discussion in the Russian parliament the question of South Ossetia's becoming part of the Russian Federation and of reunification of North and South Ossetia.

Meanwhile, the stream of refugees from South Ossetia and other areas of Georgia does not diminish. According to unofficial data, there are more than 80,000 refugees in Vladikavkaz and North Ossetia areas. The problem of accommodation of refugees and providing them with amenities has been aggravated to the utmost in the republic.

Situation Worsens, New Clashes Noted

LD0610130491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1156 GMT 6 Oct 91

[By correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, 6 Oct (TASS)—The sociopolitical situation in Tskhinvali and in the surrounding rayons of South Ossetia has reached the point of catastrophe. A massed armed attack by Georgian fighters on the autonomous oblast's peaceful inhabitants is under way. During the past 24 hours, the town has again been subjected to intensive bombardment from the outskirts of the Georgian villages of Zemo-Nikozi, Tamarasheni, Prisi, and Ergneti, to which the state of emergency does not extend.

Houses and public buildings in the southern and northern parts of Tskhinvali have been badly damaged, and eight persons have been injured as a result of the bombardment by large-caliber machine guns, grenade launchers, unguided rocket projectiles, and Alazani hail-dispersal systems. The casualties include women and children. The Ossetian side has also been returning fire.

According to the press center of the information committee of South Ossetia, in the villages of Tskhinvalskiy and Znaurskiy rayons over the last few days, cases of militants taking hostages, stealing motor vehicles and personal property, and rustling cattle at night have become more frequent. From 3-6 October, 12 persons of Ossetian nationality were kidnapped and taken away in an unknown direction.

In total, during the period of confrontation between the Ossetian and Georgian sides, about 250 Ossetians died in the autonomous oblast, 480 were injured, and 112 civilian inhabitants are missing. Persons of Ossetian nationality were expelled from 94 villages in the autonomous oblast.

The economic blockade of South Ossetia continues. Because of the seizure of all back roads by militants, the supplies of food, medicines, fuel, and construction materials from Vladikavkaz have been stopped. On the main highway from Java to Tskhinvali, columns of motor vehicles can make their way through to the besieged town only under the coverage of armored personnel carriers and the military.

Various peacemaking actions undertaken recently on the part of representatives of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, people's deputies at all levels, and sociopolitical movements have so far not yielded the desired result. Deputies of the autonomous oblast proposed a way out of this bloody conflict at the last session of the executive committee: only the entry by South Ossetia into the makeup of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic will cease the senseless internecine war. This same request was repeated by a delegation of the autonomous oblast at a recent session of the Supreme Soviet of the North Ossetian Soviet Socialist Republic. At the same time the flow of refugees from South Ossetia and other rayons of Georgia to North Ossetia is not ceasing. According to unofficial data, in Vladikavkaz and in the rayons of the Republic there are now over 80,000 people. According to the predictions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of North Ossetia, this figure may grow to 100,000 by winter.

Supreme Soviet Adopts Appeal Urging Restraint

LD0610160991 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1500 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Text] Citing the president's press office, the Georgian news agency IPRINDA reports that the emergency session of the Supreme Soviet ended in Tbilisi late last night with the adoption of an address to the people. The session was devoted to seeking peaceful ways of settling the deteriorated sociopolitical situation in Tbilisi. The document worked out in the course of rigid and specific discussions shows that the sides wish to do away with confrontation. The deputies who spoke late last night tried to assure the thousands of supporters of the ruling authorities and the president of this.

The appeal adopted at the session says that the Supreme Soviet is appealing to all the peoples of Georgia to show a sense of responsibility and to refrain from all forceful actions. It also calls on everyone to act to bring about unity and peace. During the parliament session, thousands of people rallied in front of the government building. They drew up a resolution to the deputies. It notes that the events of recent days must be viewed as a putsch and the tragic incident that occurred on 5 October was nothing other than an armed attack with a view to overthrowing the president and parliament. The participants of the rally demanded that those guilty of bloodshed be brought before the courts. The Supreme Soviet session continues today.

Session Ends; Documents Approved

LD0710104191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0900 GMT7 Oct 91

[Text] IPRINDA has just reported the following item to us: The extraordinary session held in Tbilisi ended at 0100. A news conference was held at 0130 by Supreme Soviet Chairman Akakiy Asatiani. Asatiani acquainted those present at the news conference with three docuements adopted at the session: an appeal to the people calling for calm and self control. Second, the session approved the president's decree on the introduction of the state of emergency in Tbilisi. Third, the setting up of a governmental commission which will investigate the conflict issues in relation to television broadcasting in Tbilisi has been approved. All other problems will be examined at the next session, which will be held on 8 October.

Answering a question by an IPRINDA correspondent whether the question was presented at the session on satisfying the demands of the opposition, Asatiani said that this question did not arise at the session except in the speech made by Vazhi Adamiya, the chairman of the Merab Kostava society, which reflected the demands of the opposition.

TV Leadership Offers Opposition Daily Airtime

LD0610141891 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1300 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Text] Georgiy Burdzhanadze, the press secretary of the Georgian president, told an RIA correspondent over the telephone that Tbilisi was calm last night. In his words, the session of the Republic's Supreme Soviet is at the present time looking for ways to resolve the conflict, although things are not progressing absolutely smoothly. Vazha Adamiya, for example, has demanded the resignation of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. Akakiy Asatiani, chairman of the Georgian Supreme Soviet, replied to this that in such a case it is essential to elect new leaders for the Supreme Soviet commission which also makes up its presidium. He also did not exclude the possibility of reelecting the parliamentary chairman. Eldar Shengelaya demanded the resignation of the Georgian president, as well as freedom for the press and television.

Incidentally, the television leadership has stated that it is prepared to offer the opposition one and a half hours on the air daily, adding that no obstacles stand in the way of setting up a second channel, or even an alternative television.

The deputies have resolved to continue the session until resolutions are worked out which will be capable of getting the country out of the dead-end situation in which it finds itself, concluded the press secretary.

Armenia

Candidate Foresees Relations With Azerbaijan

OW0410221791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A candidate for the Armenian presidency and leader of the association NATIONAL SELF-DETERMINATION, Paruir Ayrikyan [spelling as received], believes that Armenia should regard access to the international arena as its most important task today. This, in his view, would help it deal with the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh more efficiently.

Commenting on Yerevan-Baku relationships, he said that "we are sure to normalize our relations after all, and we'll regret the time we have wasted."

Mr. Ayrikyan attached considerable significance to promoting Armenia's contacts with Russia and Georgia. He did not rule out that a military and political alliance might be possible between Armenia and Georgia. Hopefully, democracy will prevail in Georgia in the end, and Armenia will not have to taste "Gamsakhurdism", Mr. Ayrikyan said.

Among the priority home policy problems he listed the convocation of a Constituent Assembly and the formation of an Armenian army whose single task it would be to defend the republic's borders. He also called for the introduction of a republican currency and the equality of all forms of property ownership.

The latest opinion polls show Mr. Ayrikyan is the second most popular presidential candidate after the head of the Armenian Supreme Soviet, Mr. Levon Ter-Petrosyan.

Azerbaijan

Gasanov: 'Special Opinion' of Economic Community

OW0410161991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In Baku, there has been a conference of government ministers and heads of departments and organizations on the results of the meeting of the leaders of 13 sovereign republics in Alma-Ata. Prime Minister Gasan Gasanov said that Azerbaijan was not in the eight republics that had said they were ready to put their signatures to the economic treaty before October 15.

Prime Minister Gasanov said Azerbaijan had a special opinion of the economic community treaty, the affairs of the military- industrial complex, the Army and the foreign debts.

He recalled that Azerbaijan had taken direct part in building up the military-industrial complex and consequently was entitled to its share in the MIC and the armed forces.

Political Situation in Nagorno-Karabakh Worsens

Bread Riots in Stepanakert; Clashes Continue

LD0410174191 Moscow TASS in English 1629 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Stepanakert October 4 TASS—More than a thousand people staged a blockade of the bakery in Stepanakert this morning: no bread has been delivered to shops for the second subsequent day and the stock of flour is almost exhausted in the regional centre. The bakery director Armen Martirosyan said the remaining stock will be used to supply bread to nurseries, schools and medical establishments.

Measures are now being taken to ensure supplies of flour to the city, according to the commandant's office of the area under the state of emergency.

Water supplies have been cut off to half of Stepanakert for a week already.

Chief engineer of the Stepanakert water supply system Robert Grigoryan told TASS the water intake facility in the city was damaged by explosions three times during the past week.

Sad news comes from districts adjacent on the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Region. Clashed continue in Azerbaijan's Geranboi (former Shaumyan) district, mainly populated by Armenians.

According to the press service of the Nagorno-Karabakh Executive Committee, four people were killed and several wounded in clashes near the village of Karachinar.

One of the wounded is Nikolay Kalinkin, a correspondent of the NEW TIMES magazine.

Situation 'Close to Critical'

LD0510121691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1114 GMT 5 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vadim Byrkin]

[Text] Stepanakert, 5 Oct (TASS)—As was previously the case, the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh is close to critical. According to a report from the commandant's office of the rayon where a state of emergency is in force, last night the Armenian village of Khramort in Askeranskiy Rayon was shelled. Six houses were damaged, but noone was injured. According to local residents and officers from the rayon commandant's office, almost 40 missiles were fired from the direction of the town of Agdam in the Azerbaijani republic.

A TASS correspondent was told in the Internal Affairs directorate of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast that near the village of Azokh in Gadrutskiy Rayon today, a body was found killed by an automatic weapon belonging to the Armenian side. The circumstances of this incident are being investigated.

With the aid of sub-units of the USSR Interior Ministry internal forces, a goods wagon containing flour and a tank-truck with fuel have reached Stepanakert. Bread has appeared in the shops.

Military Operation Reportedly Under Way

OW0510182991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1645 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Well-informed sources that requested anonymity told IF [INTERFAX] that a military operation codenamed "Secret" is taking place in Nagorno-Karabakh's Gadrut District, allegedly as a hunt for guerillas. The participating USSR Interior Ministry's troops were taken away from under the authority of the commandant of the area under emergency rule. The troops are under the command of General Lyubimov, but the USSR Interior Ministry claims that General Lyubimov is not on the ministry's employment rolls.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Emphasizes Economic, Political Ties

LD0510233191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1749 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By KAZTAG correspondent Murat Buldekbayev]

[Text] Alma-Ata, 4 Oct (TASS)—Mutually beneficial political and economic relations with Russia and the other sovereign states of the former Union will continue to remain of the utmost importance to Kazakhstan, noted President Nursultan Nazarbayev speaking in Alma-Ata today at a celebratory meeting dedicated to republic day which is to be observed for the second time in its history on 6 October.

Characterizing the republic's political and economic situation, he noted that since obtaining state sovereignty, the authority of Kazakhstan in the international arena has been considerably enhanced. Evidence of this—the meetings between the republic's leaders and the leaders of many world countries and visits by the heads of overseas foreign policy departments and influential political figures to Kazakhstan. Interest among the business circles of Europe, Asia, and United States in economic cooperation with the republic is also high.

The results of the meeting which took place on 1 October between the leaders of the sovereign states in Alma-Ata eloquently demonstrates the correctness of the course towards creating a single economic community which has been worked out recently. Nazarbayev emphasized, however, that all of these successes are at present having little effect upon the well-being of the people living in Kazakhstan. There is much that remains to be done to see potential opportunities turned into concrete acts.

Congress: Russia Not Only Successor to USSR

OW0510183391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1645 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Saturday the Popular Congress of Kazakhstan opened a constituent congress in Alma-Ata that is being attended by 424 delegates from all regions in the republic; the Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev is a guest of honour.

The congress co-chairman Olzhas Suleymanov reported that virtually all political parties and democratic organisations had decided to team up with the Popular Congress of Kazakhstan.

A draft declaration of the objectives and principles of the new party which the delegates plan to adopt emphasizes that its chief objective is to strive for an independent Kazakhstan as a full-fledged member of the international community.

The congress passed a resolution addressed to the Russian Government that voices concern over recent statement by the Secretary of State Gennadiy Burbulis that the Russian Federation is to become the only successor to the USSR and all of its structures. The document notes that the statement can disrupt the coming signing of the political union of sovereign countries. The resolution makes an imperative demand that the leadership of the Russian Federation fully clarify the statements.

Kyrgyzstan

Akayev Promises Support to Business Leaders

OW0510182891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1645 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Addressing the first congress of leaseholders and businesspeople in Bishkek, Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev declared that "apart from businesspeople, he did not see any other social force in society that would be capable of coping with the economic crisis."

Mr. Akayev explained Kyrgyzstan's lagging behind other republics in progress made toward market economic structures by problems with the reception of loans, a difficult access to raw materials, supply shortages, and low efficiency and skills of the workforce.

According to him, the republic is working on a new tax legislation, plans to revise bank credit policies, is developing new economic laws on leasing enterprises to foreign capital, on intellectual property, on the protection of commercial secrets and on bankruptcy. The Kyrgyz leadership will also promote the development of a market infrastructure, exchanges, commercial banks and the establishment of a management school.

Businesspeople should not stay away from politics, and the businesspeople union must with time develop into a political party and defend its interests in parliament.

Tajikistan

Supreme Soviet Session Roundup

LD0610082291 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 0005 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] The extraordinary session of the Tajikistan Supreme Soviet continued on 3 October. At the morning session, at the proposal of Supreme Soviet Chairman Rakhman Nabiyev a telegram of congratulations was sent to the Supreme Soviet and President Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan on the occasion of the participation of a Kazakhstan cosmonaut in the joint [word indistinct] and space flight by the Soyuz TM-13 spacecraft launched on 2 October from Baykonur cosmodrome.

Rakhman Nabiyev, expressing views on the social, political and economic situation of the republic and the speedy signing of a Union treaty, called on all political parties and movements in Tajikistan to join these endeavours.

The session began discussions of the third item of the agenda: rescinding the resolution of the Tajikistan Supreme Soviet on 5 October 1990 on the petition of Gadayev, Usmonov, and others, as well as the fourth section of Article 7 of the law of the Republic of Tajikistan on the freedom of conscience and religious organizations. Parliament approved proposals from Kurbanov to examine this issue in depth in the legislation, order and citizens right commission of the Supreme Soviet, with the participation of lawyers, and that it be presented for discussion at the next session.

Members of parliament rejected a proposal to ban the activities of all political parties during the presidential campaign in the republic.

Following a short break, parliament began discussions on the fourth item of the agenda, on the suspension of the powers of Nabiyev, chairman of the Republic of Tajikistan Supreme Soviet, during the period before presidential elections in the Republic of Tajikistan, and transferring them to Iskandarov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan. Deputies Vasiyev, Dzhabborov, Bozor Sabir, Gulamov, Kendzhayev, Turgunov, Mirzoaliyev, and Afzalov expressed their views on the subject. One section of the deputies stressed that there are no rules in the republic's legislation on suspending candidates to the presidency from their assigned duties during the election campaign.

Speaking at the session, Koshlakov, USSR people's deputy and chairman of the State Committee for Economics of the Republic of Tajikistan, read out an appeal on behalf of a number of government members to the republican parliament. The appeal calls for normalization of the sociopolitical situation in Tajikistan. It stressed that the republic is already [words indistinct] and the futile resistance of opposing forces is making the situation more tense.

During the evening's session deputies, continued discussion on items of the agenda. The session concluded its work on 3 October.

Ministers Issue Appeal, Threaten To Resign

LD0410163991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1529 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By TADZHIKIA correspondent Nina Merezhnikova]

[Text] Dushanbe, 4 Oct (TASS)—Eight members of the Tajikistan cabinet of ministers holding key posts in the government have appealed to parliament, all parties, and sociopolitical movements of the republic.

"We can state with total justification that the republic is on the verge of total economic catastrophe, primarily regarding the extreme destabilization of the political situation," the appeal says. "Instead of the consolidation of all forces, every day sees an increase in confrontation between various highly politicized groups. A struggle for power is under way, a struggle for the top posts, which is complicated by personal ambitions, ancient slights, and the petty calculation of mutual mistakes. In such conditions there can be neither stabilization of the work of the national economy nor, even more so, any improvement in it."

In proposing ways to get out of the present complicated situation, the ministers consider it essential for all parties in Tajikistan, whether registered or unregistered, to announce the cessation of their political activity and the elimination of their structures for the period of the election campaign. At the same time political rallies and demonstrations should be halted for a specific period.

"As far as we are concerned," the members of the government who signed the appeal stated, "we are prepared honestly and conscientiously to fulfill our duties until the presidential elections and the formation of a new cabinet of ministers. However, if the political situation does not change within the next few days, and if the terrible psychological pressure does not disappear, we shall lay down our powers as we consider that in this case our efforts are absolutely useless."

Conflict Continues, Protests Mount

LD0510114991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1103 GMT 5 Oct 91

[By correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe, 5 Oct (TAJIKTA-TASS)—The conflict continues between the parliament of Tajikistan and Ozodi Square where a meeting of many thousands of people has been going on for 12 days, with its participants demanding the resignation of the republic's Supreme Soviet and its chairman Rakhman Nabiyev. Today more tents appeared on Ozodi Square. They house hundreds of drivers from a number of major motor depots in the town of Dushanbe and the neighboring Ordzhonikidzeabadskiy Rayon who have expressed their solidarity with the demands of those assembled at the meeting.

The number of participants in the meeting who have gone on hunger strike is also increasing. According to the protesters' press center, more than 180 people are taking part in it, including more than 20 women. The six important Sufi religious philosophers who are very popular among the Muslims of Tajikistan are still continuing their hunger strike. They are all elderly, and a hunger strike could have tragic results for them. Yesterday, six young people joined the hunger strikers including one girl from the new unregistered organization of the Free Youth of Tajikistan [Organizatsiya Svobodnoy Molodyezhi Tadzhikistana]. They are observing their ongoing hunger strike on the very steps of the parliament building. At their feet lie dozens of bunches of flowers placed there both by those at the meeting and by simple passers-by.

While the parliament and its leadership are seeking ways to reach a compromise and are organizing fruitless consultations with the organizers of the meeting, the social and political situation in the republic is growing more heated. A sharp fall in the provision of foodstuffs to the population has been noted. Also, the opposition headquarters claims that 12 foreign states have placed an embargo on trade with the Republic of Tajikistan because of the political instability and the threat of an uprising here by pro-communist elements.

Anatoliy Sobchak and Yevgeniy Velikhov, members of the Political Consultative Council, who are in Tajikistan on the orders of USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev, are continuing to meet with labor collectives in the town and in agricultural rayons as well as with representatives of the intelligentsia and of the student body of Dushanbe.

Nabiyev Resigns; Confrontation 'Over'

LD0610203891 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 2000 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Text] Our correspondent from Dushanbe has just reported that Tajikstan Supreme Soviet Chairman Rakhman Nabiyev has resigned. He has written a statement in which he asks to be relieved of his duties as chairman of the Supreme Soviet to ensure equal opportunities during the campaign for president of Tajikistan.

The elections have been moved from 27 October to 24 November. These and a number of other decisions have been adopted as a result of a three-day negotiation between Tajikistan's official leadership, the opposition, and representatives of USSR President Gorbachev, members of the top political council, Anatoliy Sobchak, and Yevgeniy Velikhov. The agreement has been signed; the situation in Dushanbe is stabilizing. The rally that has been under way for 13 days in Ozodi Square is examining the results. The confrontation is over.

Gorbachev Envoys Assess Political Situation

OW0510014891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2000 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Soviet president's representatives Anatoliy Sobchak and Yevgeniy Velikov, who are in Tajikistan on a fact-finding mission, had talks in Dushanbe on Friday with representatives of both government and opposition.

Negotiations with the president of the Tajik Supreme Soviet and acting republican president Rakhman Nabiyev took place behind closed doors and local journalists have been unable to learn anything of their content.

The resignation of Nabiyev is one of the principal demands of the protesters who are continuing their uninterrupted demonstration in Dushanbe's central square. A group of young people on a stand-up hunger strike are in a critical condition. At the present time there are about 10,000 people on the square.

Having met with opposition representatives on Friday morning, Sobchak and Velikov told the demonstrators that the aim of their mission was "to help Tajikistan emerge from the crisis without the loss of a single drop of blood".

Many independent observers in Dushanbe think that their mission will be a difficult one: it will be extremely hard to unravel in a short period of time the tangled mass of family, patrimonial, national and religious problems which have caused the current crisis in Tajikistan.

Anatoliy Sobchak and Yevgeniy Velikov are to hold a press conference on Saturday.

Meetings Reported

LD0410214691 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 2000 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Academician Yevgeniy Velikhov and Anatoliy Sobchak, mayor of St. Peterburg, members of the Political Consultative Council, have arrived in the capital of the Republic of Tajikistan with instructions from USSR President Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to get full and objective information.

They met members of the presidium of the republican Supreme Soviet, people's deputies of Tajikistan, and USSR people's deputies, as well as with members of the council of city enterprise managers.

Yevgeniy Velikhov and Anatoliy Sobchak spoke at a meeting in Ozodi Square. Our task is to help with the implementation of democratic changes in the republic, Anatoliy Sobchak said. Velikhov and Sobchak, members of the Political Consultative Council, plan to stay in the republic until the end of this week.

Comment on Objectives

OW0510155291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1415 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] What the USSR President's envoys Anatoliy Sobchak and Evgeniy Velikhov were instructed to do in Dushanbe is not to give recommendations, but help the leaders of all political forces in Tajikistan enter into negotiations to work out solutions that would extricate the republic from its crisis, said A. Sobchak and E. Velikhiv on Saturday at meetings with the local public held in the Academy of Sciences and Tajik University.

Tajikistan's political structures are disorganized, said A. Sobchak, and so far it's hard to say when positive forces with a positive program emerge in the republic to overcome its crisis.

According to A. Sobchak, the Tajik parliament's decision to impose a state of emergency was an attempt to preserve the communist dictatorship locally.

At the moment, said A. Sobchak, the Tajik leadership has no direct contacts with other republics in connection with economic issues. It is obsessed with internal political developments. In the meantime the loss of every passing day further aggravates the economic situation in the republic and in the USSR as a whole.

Answering questions asked by public representatives A. Sobchak said that in his view the Tajik parliament had no legal right to ban the Islamic Rebirth Party.

A. Sobchak and E. Velikhov held talks with the leaders of the republic and with the opposition. They visited the biggest plants and factories where they interviewed spokesmen for labor staffs.

In the meantime the opposition continues its meeting in the main square of Dushanbe. The number of participants in the meeting ranges from 5 to 15 thousand people.

Islamic Leader Views Political Situation

PM0410130191 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 Oct 91 p 1

[Interview with Tajik Muslim leader Akbar Turadzhonzod by U. Babakhanov and A. Mursaliyev in Dushanbe; date not given; first paragraph is introduction: "Let Them Speak of an Islamic Tajikistan. But the Qadi Is Against It"]

[Text] Dushanbe—He is 37 years old and has six children. He graduated from an institute in Tashkent and a university in Jordan. Everyone in the republic knows him. Today Hajji Akbar Turadzhonzod, the qadi of the Muslims of Tajikistan, is a member of the opposition.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] Esteemed Qadidamulla, the opposition in Tajikistan is a coalition of various forces. But many people are convinced that it is you who are the key figure in this alliance...

[Turandzhonzod] I cannot agree with that assertion. Circumstances have brought people together. They all want to avoid a return of totalitarianism. We demand the suspension of the activity of the communist party and the nationalization of its property on the basis of the decision of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Although the Communists of Tajikistan assert that they are independent of Moscow, 75 percent of their funds came from the center. We are not against rank and file Communists, let them register their new party at least within a week. We are against an organization that is above the state.

I do not want to say that I am a 100 percent democrat but I am a supporter of radical changes. And I adhere to opposition views not because I am a qadi but because I have that world outlook. In parliament, in addition to myself, there two more representatives of the Muslim clergy. But they stand on different positions. And when at the 28 September communist meeting calls were heard for criminal proceedings to be brought against me, people began to come from various parts of the republic to defend me. On leaving the Supreme Soviet building we saw that there were already barricades next to the gorispolkom [city soviet executive committee].

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] Today the democratic and Islamic forces are acting in a single bloc. How firm and long-term is this alliance?

[Turandzhonzod] There is no unity among the leaders of the Islamic Rebirth Party, some of them are stating their reluctance to build an Islamic society. My credo is a democratic secular state in which religion will be separate from the state. Perhaps I will begin to have serious differences with them. But I hope that they understand that building an Islamic state in the 20th century means dooming the republic to isolation. That will prevent the normal development of relations with the free world.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] In early September you intended to support the candidacy of Rakhmon Nabiyev in the forthcoming presidential elections. Now you are demanding his resignation. Why?

[Turandzhonzod] I was among those who helped Nabiyev to return to political life. I also supported him during the elections of deputies to the Supreme Soviet. At that time, when his present entourage was slinging mud at Nabiyev, it was the democratic newspapers which helped him to defend himself. I was ready to join his team at the presidential elections. But on two conditions: If he were to leave the party (I cannot support a Communist) and if he took Davlat Khudonazarov as vice president. Why this combination? If the radical Khudonazarov comes to power alone, he will come up against powerful resistance from the conservatives. And Nabiyev alone will not be able to implement reforms. Time has stopped for him. He thinks in the categories of the eighties. It seems to him that he will be able to use the old methods to introduce order in the republic. But this way one them would represent the interests of the conservatives, the other the interests of the new forces. he agreed. But it all collapsed 28 September. I came to work knowing nothing. I saw a meeting. What words were uttered there! Terrible words! I implored Nabiyev and his new entourage not to make mistakes, I entreated, even wept. I warned there would be chaos and tension. Relations between the north and south of the republic are already strained. But he did not have the courage to take a decision and renounce the alliance with the nomenklatura. He has proved a weak politician. And he will no longer be able in the future to become a symbol uniting the republic. Yet he did have that chance recently...

I explained to him that Gosplan [the state planning committee], which used to determine how many kilograms of oil would go where, to which rayon, no longer exists. We are advancing toward the market. Tajikistan needs investments and an influx of capital from outside. And capitalists, whether Western, Russian, or Baltic, will invest money where things are calm and stable. And then it became known that the Swiss firm with which our minister of grain procurements had agreed on deliveries of 200,000 tonnes of grain, had annulled the contract, stating it did not intend to trade with a communist regime. And again Nabiyev lacks the courage to read out this telegram at the session.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] In your view, might Tajikistan travel the Iranian path?

[Turandzhonzod] That is impossible for a number of reasons. First, we are Sunni Muslims and in contrast to the Shi'ites the Sunni do not have a single imam. Sunni doctrine does not recognize leadership by one man. With us each spiritual leader is autonomous. Second, 70 years of anti-Islamic propaganda have done their job. Young people have formed liberal views. And even if someone wants to build an Islamic state in our republic, he has virtually no chance of doing so.

Islamic Party Legalization Supported

LD0410200491 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] A big anti-government rally is under way in the capital Dushanbe in support of demands for the resignation of the leader of Parliament Rakhmon Nabiyev and legalization of the Islamic Party.

Turkmenia

'United' Position on Defense Unchanged

LD0410180891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1522 GMT 4 Oct 91

[By correspondent Nina Chunakova]

[Text] Ashkhabad, 4 Oct (TASS)—The position of Turkmenistan, which favors the preservation of a united army capable of ensuring the security of the sovereign republics, remains unchanged. This was stated by President Saparmurad Niyazov in a conversation with Colonel General Pavel Grachev, chairman of the RSFSR State Committee for defense questions.

During the conversation there was discussion of a broad range of problems concerning mutual relations between sovereign Turkmenistan and the leadership of the armed forces of the USSR. In particular, questions were raised on the need to create a military district in the republic.

Uzbekistan

Parliament Recognizes Baltic Independence

LD0610041491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0825 GMT 3 Oct 91

[By TASS-UZTAG correspondent Irina Grebnyuk]

[Text] Tashkent, 3 Oct (TASS)—A resolution by the parliament of Uzbekistan on recognition of the Baltic republics' independence and an address to their parliaments are published in the local press today.

Uzbekistan's parliament welcomes the acquisition of full state independence by the peoples of the Baltic, the documents note. The address expresses readiness to do everything possible to strengthen traditional relations of friendship, mutual respect, and comprehensive economic and cultural cooperation.

Independence Law Basis of New Constitution

OW0510180991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1645 GMT 5 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Uzbekistan's State Independence Law is supreme to the republican constitution now in effect, says a law published Saturday in local press.

This document will form the basis of a new constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan.